



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

TX 940.9 .N664
Nida, William Lewis.
Story of the world war : for young people

Stanford University Libraries



3 6105 04934 5114

Story of the World War

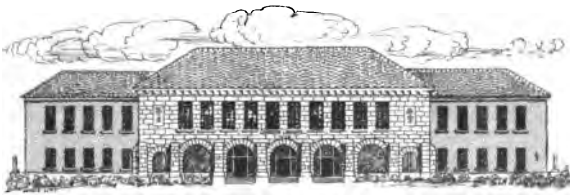
For Young People

By

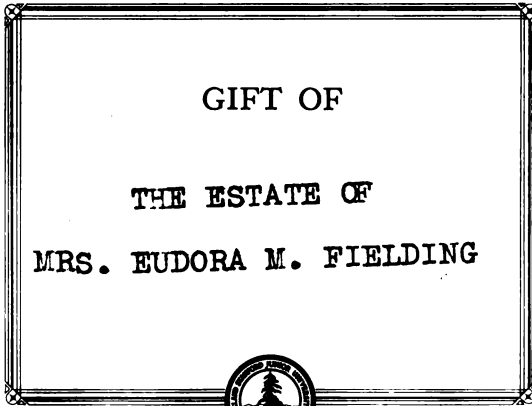
William L. Nida

Complete Edition

HALE BOOK CO.
Oak Park, Ill.



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
LIBRARY



STANFORD UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIES

STORY OF THE WORLD WAR

For
Young People

BY

WILLIAM L. NIDA

Superintendent of Schools, River Forest, Illinois.

Author of

"Dawn of American History," "City, State and Nation," Etc.

HALE BOOK CO.
OAK PARK, ILLINOIS

579849
C

COPYRIGHT, 1917

BY

WILLIAM L. NIDA

Published August, 1917

Reprinted, October, 1917

Reprinted, December, 1917

Reprinted, April, 1918

Revised, July, 1918

Revised, January, 1919

FOREWORD

The curricula of the public schools must change much in the new era that is upon us. The events and results of the World War should occupy the center of the stage in the study of history and geography.

The United States is no longer an isolated nation. We have cast our power and influence into the struggle of making a free world. The part our men have played in the greatest event of history, and the great developments of this war period affect the future of every child and he must be familiar with it all in order to be prepared for the opportunities that will be his because of it.

I am encouraged to complete this brief and practical account of the war by the abundant assurance that it has already been of real service to many hundreds of teachers and students in our public schools.

W. L. N.

CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
1—The Rise of the German Empire.....	5
2—The Kaiser and His World Dream.....	14
3—The Story of the Balkan Countries.....	20
4—Europe Takes Fire.....	25
5—How Europe Had Prepared for This War.....	31
6—The Campaign of 1914.....	39
7—England and Her Fleet.....	48
8—New Methods of Warfare.....	53
9—The War in the Air.....	57
10—The Campaign of 1915.....	67
11—Attempt to Take the Dardanelles.....	74
12—The Campaign of 1916.....	81
13—Roumania Conquered—1916.....	89
14—The Czar Loses His Throne.....	93
15—Submarine Warfare.....	97
16—The United States Enters the War.....	100
17—Why We Went to War With Germany.....	109
18—Campaign of 1917—West Front.....	112
19—Italy Invaded.....	119
20—The Eastern Fronts in 1917.....	125
21—Raising a Great American Army.....	130
22—Our Navy and the Submarine.....	134
23—Ships, Ships, Ships.....	140
24—Food and the War.....	143
25—Other War Measures.....	146
26—Russian and Roumanian Peace.....	152
27—A Half-Year of German Victory.....	156
28—America on the Firing Line.....	165
29—The Tank.....	169
30—German Retreat to the Hindenburg Line.....	173
31—Germany's Allies Collapse.....	181
32—Breaking the Hindenburg Line.....	185
33—Germany Conquered.....	190

CHAPTER I

THE RISE OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE

In August, 1914, a terrible world calamity took place. All the great nations of Europe were declared to be at arms. On July 22 of that year the world was at peace, but from this time one event followed another with lightning speed and within twelve days all Europe was ablaze. The Central Powers of Germany and Austria were at war with the Allies, Russia, France, Great Britain, Serbia and Belgium. Some time later Turkey and Bulgaria joined the Germans, while Japan, Italy and Roumania entered the war on the side of the Allies. After nearly three years of horrible strife our own United States entered the conflict on the side of the Allies and later Greece, Brazil, China and other nations declared war on Germany.

In order to understand what this awful world war was about we must know something of the history of Germany in the last fifty years, for it was the ambition of the German Kaiser and his war lords to rule Europe that brought on this terrible conflict. And we must also know a brief story of the Balkan country, that great peninsula lying between the Black Sea and the Adriatic Sea, for it was this country of the Balkans that the German war lords determined to possess and rule as their first step toward world dominion.

Let us go back a few years and learn how Germany became a great, powerful and united Empire.

When the wars of Napoleon closed there were in Germany thirty-nine different states and four independent cities, each with its own ruler. Of **PRUSSIA AND AUSTRIA** these thirty-nine different governments there were two leading ones. They were the Kingdom of Prussia and the Empire of Austria. Austria was then the strongest fighting power and for that reason was able to force its wishes upon all the other German states. Prussia was only a little kingdom and, though it had been considered one of the five great powers of Europe, it had been greatly weakened by long wars and had lost many thousands of its men.

But from this little Kingdom of Prussia came the power that built up the united Empire of Germany. This was done through the wonderful mind and leadership of one man, Otto von Bismarck.

In 1862 King William I. of Prussia made Bismarck his adviser. For the next thirty years **BISMARCK AS CHANCELLOR** Bismarck was the prominent figure in Europe. He came from an obscure family of the country landed aristocracy. He believed that it was the Prussian kings and not the Prussian people that had made his own kingdom great, so he favored giving the king more power and was firmly opposed to allowing the people any voice in their government. When William I. granted a constitution to Prussia, Bismarck was enraged. He said he hated democracy and the rule of the common people. He was an aristocrat to his finger tips.

Bismarck seemed to be the one German that understood the cause of his country's weakness. He also had been an exceedingly keen observer of all German affairs and he had come to feel it was a mistake to have so many small states in Germany. Many years

before he had said that there was not room in Germany for both Prussia and Austria and that one or the other must bend. He kept saying there were too many little states and he would have them all united in one nation with Prussia as its head. He argued that the only way to bring about this union was by war, for he believed that the great questions of the day are settled by blood and iron.

When Bismarck came into power as adviser to the King of Prussia, the first thing he advised was to smash Austria. To do this he needed a strong new military tool. So Bismarck and King William proceeded to get this tool ready. They built up a great army by demanding military service of every man. Every able-bodied young Prussian was called to serve for at least two years in the army. Some of the people of Prussia objected to this forced military service, but the King, encouraged by Bismarck, had his own way about it.

In good time Bismarck thought Prussia was strong enough to master Austria so they looked for some **WAR ON DENMARK** excuse to begin the trouble. The people of the two Danish provinces of Schleswig and Holstein were trying to throw off the rule of Denmark. This was Bismarck's chance to test his new army with little risk and also his opportunity to pick a quarrel with Austria. Sixty thousand Prussians and Austrians seized the territory in dispute. They easily defeated Denmark and forced her to give up the two provinces. But then Austria and Prussia could not agree about who should have them. Austria wished to make them into a separate state and this was also the wish of the people of the conquered provinces, but Bismarck was determined to add them to Prussia so as to extend her coast line

and secure some excellent harbors, especially the one at Kiel. He said there were too many small states in Germany already. This dispute soon led to war between Austria and Prussia as Bismarck had foreseen.

Bismarck had great faith that his new army could fight. The next thing was to prove it to the Austrians. The Prussians had adopted as their field rifle the breech-loading weapon known as the needle gun. It had a long range, considerably beyond that of the old-fashioned, smooth-bore musket. When a zealous young Austrian officer reported this to his superiors the only answer was, "The battalions of Austria will sweep away these piff-paff soldiers like dust."

In 1866 the opportunity came to "sweep away" the Prussians. Prussia forced the war upon Austria, **PRUSSIA AND AUSTRIA** and Italy helped Prussia. The **AT WAR, 1866** marvelous new military system of the Prussians worked like a clock, and Prussia struck her enemy with such speed as to amaze Europe. The great general of this war was Von Moltke. In the years before the war he had planned all the campaigns, and he now saw them come out just as he had planned them.

Von Moltke sent three armies into Austro-Hungary by different routes. They met the Austrians at Sadowa. King William, Bismarck, and Von Moltke took up their position on a hill from which they could view the battle. The struggle was long and doubtful. It began in the early morning. For hours the armies fought with terrific fury. Up until two o'clock it seemed to be an Austrian victory. But then the Prussian Crown Prince arrived with his army and turned the tide. At half past three the

Austrian army was beaten and had begun the retreat. They had lost about 40,000 men, while the Prussians had lost but 10,000. Austria acknowledged her defeat, and Bismarck, who feared France might join Austria, gladly gave her easy terms. The war lasted only about six weeks.

Now that the war was over and Austria subdued, what was Bismarck's next step? Prussia was anxious to punish Austria by taking the Bohemian frontier from her. When Bismarck learned this, it is said he burst into a torrent of weeping. He declared it would wreck all his plans and make Austria a lasting enemy of Prussia. He thought Prussia would some day need Austria's help. The King finally listened to Bismarck and the only penalty exacted from Austria was that she should leave the other German states alone and let Prussia manage them as best she could. Thus Austria was forced out of German affairs and Prussia became the leading state in Germany.

Prussia now got all the north German states, twenty-two in all, to form a North German Confederation. The King of Prussia was made President of the Federation. Bismarck wrote up the constitution and was careful to see that Prussia had enough power to control all important matters.

Still Germany was not yet a unit. There were several independent south German states that were **FRANCO-PRUSSIAN** influenced by Austria on the east **WAR, 1870** and by France on the west. France was then supposed to be the strongest military power in Europe, but Prussia had no fear of France, single-handed. Bismarck made the south German states believe that the French were going to take some of their territory and thus gained their

consent to join hands with the German Confederation in a war. Bismarck said that the way to complete the union of the German states was to engage them all in a war against some other nation. Accordingly, he trumped up a quarrel with France as to who should sit on the throne of Spain. When Bismarck published in the press the story of this trouble with France, he told it in a way that was most insulting to France. He said he "intended it to be a red rag for the French bull." His plan was to anger France so she would declare war. Then Germany might pose before the world as merely fighting in self-defense. France declared war in 1870 and the south German states joined the North German Confederation as Bismarck had planned.

The French army was poorly prepared compared with the splendidly drilled Prussian soldiers. One French army was shut up in the strong fortress of Metz and besieged. The other French army surrendered at Sedan, and the French emperor was taken prisoner. Within six weeks the French empire had fallen and a republic was proclaimed in that country. In eight weeks the Germans were at the gates of Paris.

Immense stores had been collected at Paris, and the citizens were armed to defend their capital city. The French astonished the world with their splendid defense. It is interesting to know that aircraft figured in this siege when Gambetta and other leaders escaped from Paris by balloon and organized new armies outside. But they had no time to drill the new recruits, and they failed to break through the great circle of iron that surrounded the city. After

a remarkable siege of four months, Paris was starved out and obliged to surrender to the Germans.

France was absolutely crushed. Germany took from her the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine and compelled the French people to pay to the Germans an immense war indemnity of a billion dollars.

The work of making Germany a united nation was now practically done. While the German army was **GERMANY** still in Paris a communication was sent **UNITED** to King William of Prussia by the King of Bavaria, asking King William to become Emperor of Germany. We now know that the letter was written by Bismarck. In 1871 in the great hall of the palace of Versailles, which was then occupied by the German army, William was crowned and given the title of German Emperor.

But in realizing his ambition, Bismarck had made some mistakes. Although his ideal of uniting the German states into one great power was a good one, he had done an irreparable wrong to France. He had provoked the war with France and then forced the French to pay the cost. An indemnity of a billion dollars was a terrible burden in those days, but the French people worked industriously and paid it off in a few years.

The thing the French nation never forgave Germany was the taking of its territory. Germany had been for forty years trying to Germanize the two provinces of Alsace and Lorraine. She forbade them to use their native language of French in their schools and churches. It was as if they had taken the New England states from us and tried to convert all the people into Germans. Now we know that any people clings to its mother tongue with a death grip, and no amount of force will compel them

to give it up gracefully. France promised herself that some day she would recover these provinces from Germany and, looking forward to another war, sought an ally in Russia.

Bismarck's work now seemed to be done. He had accomplished what seemed at the outset to be an **BISMARCK'S** impossibility. He had made from the **RULE** thirty-nine small German states a nation greater even than Russia or Austro-Hungary. He was looked upon as the greatest German statesman since the days of Charlemagne. But the day has now come when we heartily condemn him for his criminal action in robbing a neighboring country and causing a bitterness which had to be redeemed in the blood of this generation.

Bismarck was the real ruler of Germany for more than thirty years, though he was merely called the Chancellor. He has been given the name of the "Iron Chancellor" because of his grim determination to make his country great no matter what the cost. What was right was not the consideration in his mind. His only question was: "Is Germany strong enough to do this thing?" His gospel was: "Might makes right," which is the gospel of a savage, and this was the creed of German war lords as they trampled upon weaker nations with astounding cruelty.

Bismarck, knowing that France was longing for revenge, made a triple alliance with Russia and Austria against France. But this did not last for both Russia and Austria had been ambitious to get control of Constantinople and the straits leading from the Black Sea into the Mediterranean. Russia wished it for a warm waterway for her commerce and Germany and Austria both desired to possess

the Balkan states of Serbia, Bulgaria, Turkey, Roumania, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

After a time war occurred between Russia and Turkey. Russia was about to take Constantinople **THE DUAL AND** when Germany and Austria inter-
TRIPLE ALLIANCES vened and robbed Russia of her victory over Turkey. A part of Turkey, which had been conquered by the Russians was given to Austria. The Czar said: "Bismarck has forgotten his promise of 1870." The provinces which fell to Austrian control were Bosnia and Herzegovina, both of which were peopled with Slavs and should have gone to Serbia or Russia.

Then Russia was ready to break with Germany and form an alliance with France. Italy at this time was angered at France for seizing Tunis, because Italy wanted that part of Africa for a colony of her own. So Italy joined the alliance of Germany and Austria. Thus arose the Dual Alliance of France and Russia and the Triple Alliance of Germany, Austro-Hungary and Italy. This was the line-up of friends and enemies when the great world war broke out.

Bismarck was still Chancellor when William Hohenzollern came to the throne of the German Empire in 1888. William II was young, able and full of ambition to rule. As he did his own thinking he soon quarreled with Bismarck and dismissed him.

After 1890 Kaiser William was the deciding voice in all German affairs. He once said: "There is only one master of the nation. That is I. I will abide no other. I look upon the people and the nation as a responsibility conferred upon me by God. Those who interfere with my task I shall crush."

CHAPTER II

THE KAISER'S DREAM OF WORLD EMPIRE

During the twenty-five years since 1890 Germany had developed her industries and her commerce in a remarkable manner. In both these respects she had become the rival of England and the United States. Thus Germany was a rich and powerful country with an industrious and loyal people of seventy millions. But her citizens were not free.

When Bismarck drew up the constitution of the Empire he fashioned the government so that Prussia **KAISER** should have the balance of power and the **SUPREME** Kaiser might rule. "Prussia," said Prince von Bulow, a short time before the war, "is to this day a state of soldiers and officials." The Kaiser appointed nobles, and nobles only, to his high offices. Only a noble could be Chancellor or Minister. The Kaiser chose only nobles as officers of his army and navy. He made the Prussian nobility the ruling caste. Through Prussia these officials and war lords ruled the Empire. The noble class was in turn ruled by the Kaiser, but they were content. This is what we mean when we speak of German militarism. We mean a government by the Kaiser and his soldier class.

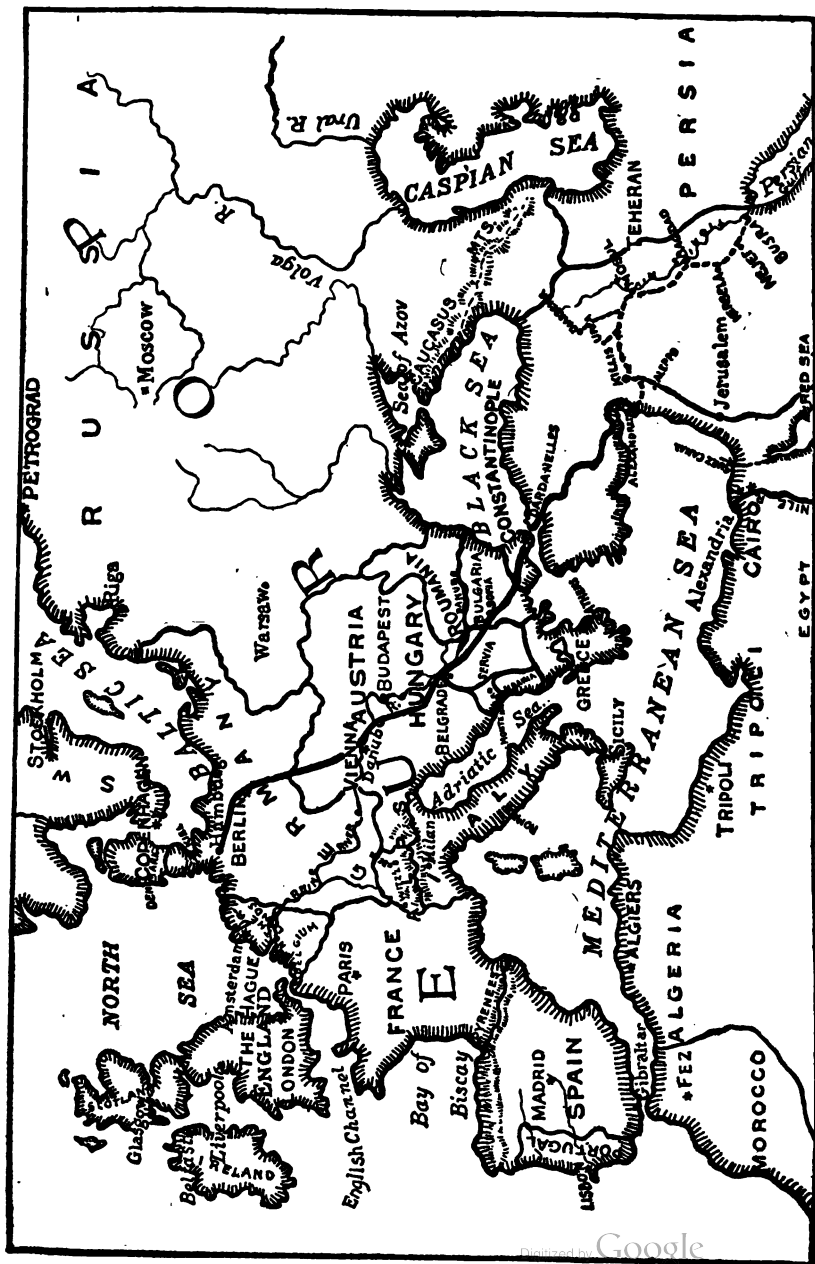
In America and other democratic countries we hold that one man is as good as another, and that all shall have an equal voice in the government. We would not tolerate being ruled by a class of soldiers and aristocrats.

During this time Germany had acquired a number of colonies in Africa, China and the eastern seas. **GERMAN** But though her colonies had cost her a **OUTLOOK** great deal, she did not know how to develop or rule them with the success of England. The Kaiser had also in this time built up a large navy. He was ambitious to have the German Empire as powerful on the seas as she had been on the land for the last fifty years, so that nothing should be done on sea or land without her consent.

Now if you will look at the map you will observe that Germany had very little sea coast except that on the Baltic Sea. This lack of good ports hindered her world trade. The Empire was too much hemmed in to suit its rulers. A rich and powerful nation looks for room to grow. Germany was a manufacturing country and in order to trade freely with other nations wanted more convenient harbors.

England controlled the sea. All the strategic sea routes of the world except the newly completed **ENGLAND IN** Panama and Kiel Canals, belonged **GERMANY'S PATH** to England. She had Gibraltar, the Suez Canal, Singapore and innumerable islands the world over that had naval bases on them. Yet England never abused other nations with her power. The seas were entirely free to all commerce in times of peace. The ships of all nations coaled in British ports on the same terms as those of England. However, her colonies and coaling stations gave England a great advantage in trade and commerce, and these were the very things Germany wished to develop.

Since Germany had not been very successful in establishing colonies, and as England had always kept her navy far in advance of that of the Germans,



Germany set out to secure a better sea coast outlet for her trade and to become a great land empire.* The Kaiser was determined to extend his frontiers even if he had to crush small and innocent nations, and he kept the largest army of the world ready for the first opportunity to strike for more territory. In fact, the war lords were more than willing to make an opportunity on the slightest excuse.

They looked with eager eyes on the coal and iron lands of Belgium and Northern France, and coveted the fine harbors of these countries. They longed to get control of the wheat and oil lands of Roumania and they wanted a chance to overflow into the garden spot of the Tigris and Euphrates valleys which were only waiting for irrigation to make them some of the most fruitful regions of the world. Above all, they desired the Dardanelles with its strategic position dominating the whole of the Black Sea country.

In short, the German dream had long been to build up a great empire extending from the Baltic Sea to **BAGDAD** the Persian Gulf. It was to be held together by a line of railroad which should descend from Hamburg through Berlin to Vienna and thence to Constantinople. From here it was to pass through Asia Minor, where it forked, one branch going down to the Persian Gulf through Bagdad and the other to Suez and Mecca. Germany secured secret permission from Turkey to build the Bagdad railway. This railway was not yet complete, but it was designed to bring German armies to the frontier of Egypt and eventually to India, where they might threaten the British Empire by land.

* See Bagdad Railway in "Side Lights."

Germany's railroad to the Persian Gulf would be shorter than England's sea route and would give the Germans the advantage in trade with the East.

But in order to carry out this dream it was necessary for Germany to gain possession of Turkey and the Balkans. Austria was an ally of Germany and was dominated by her. Together they exerted every effort to get the Turks and Bulgars to join them in the war. In fact, Germany had secret treaties binding these countries to aid her. The object in coveting the Balkans was to get control not only of the land, but of the railroad to Constantinople. Germany also planned to conquer Belgium and extend her rule as far south as Calais or Brest in France so that she might have a port on the English Channel or the Atlantic. Riga on the Baltic was an eastern port that she desired. In short, there seemed to be no limit to the ambition and conceit of this German dream, this ambition to encircle the earth and Germanize other countries by sheer force, destroying weaker nations without mercy or excuse.

This scheme of German leaders had long been urged. The war lords had written many books and **PAN** distributed them among their people urging the extension of their territory. The **GERMANY** citizens of Germany were trained to listen to the voice of the ruling class and they were beginning to feel that they were God's chosen people and that they had a perfect right to seize the best portions of Europe and of the world for themselves.

In many respects the world admitted the power of Germany. The Germans are good organizers and **RUNNING** can build up great human machines, and **AMUCK** thus get good team-work. German cities

were well governed and the industry and commerce of the empire were thoroughly organized. The Germans put experts in charge of all their work and they used scientific methods and economy in all manufacture and business. Thus Germany made a formidable enemy.

For half a century Germany prepared secretly and carefully to seize the world by the throat. By **CON-POISONING** trolling the press and the schools, the **A NATION** ruling class of Germany thoroughly poisoned the minds of the entire nation. The children whose hearts and minds could be easily moulded, were taught to hate the French and the English. They were schooled to worship war, to magnify German achievements and to scorn or deny virtue in any other people. Much of what they were taught about other nations was either false or only half-truth. Thus Germany became a bigoted, conceited, war-mad nation.

The Germans had come to worship science, efficiency and power until they thought of nothing else. The questions of right and wrong, peace and love and sympathy for the weak and helpless—in a word, Christian behavior—were scorned in the Fatherland. The world had moved on in its ideas of morals, justice and liberty, but these Christian principles had been smothered in Germany.

We stood for right, for brotherly love and a square deal between nations, for a chance for every nation to live its life in its own way. Upon all these principles of right Germany trampled with unheard-of cruelty to carry out her ambition based upon "Might makes right." Against this mad theory the world fought, more than twenty nations against four.

CHAPTER III

THE STORY OF THE BALKAN COUNTRIES

In order to understand this war we must also know something of the history of the Balkan countries which occupy the whole of the great peninsula between the Black Sea and the Adriatic Sea. In this peninsula were the nations of Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria, Roumania, Serbia, Montenegro and the two provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina which Austria had seized.

The Turks captured Constantinople in 1453 and laid hold upon nearly all of the Balkan countries. This date is an important one in our history, for it was this that closed the trade route of Genoa to the East and finally brought about the discovery of America. The Turks not only seized the Balkans, but they threatened and terrified all western Europe. In time they were checked by European armies, but they placed a heavy yoke upon the Balkan states.

The Turks had only contempt for the people whom they had conquered. They did not try to mould them into a nation, but were satisfied to make them their subjects and exploit them. The Christian peoples were oppressed by the Mohammedan Turks for several hundred years. Their property was taken and their lives also, whenever it suited their Turkish rulers. They bore their ills as best they might, longing for liberation and hating the Turks with a deathless hatred.

In the next two hundred years Turkey steadily

last ground. Russia and Austria first despoiled her **THE SICK MAN OF THE EAST** of some of her valuable land. Then her own subjects arose to throw off her galling yoke. The Balkan country has from this time been a knotty problem for all of Europe. It has been clear that the savage Turks were in the end to be driven from Europe and the burning question has been when this should happen who would get possession of her empire and particularly who would control Constantinople and the outlet from the Black Sea, otherwise known as the Dardanelles. This has been spoken of as the Eastern Question and Turkey has for years been known as the "Sick Man of the East." Many nations of Europe have aspired to control the Dardanelles and to possess Constantinople.

The Serbians first threw off the Turkish rule after a long, hard contest. The Turks were driven out of Serbia, and Belgrade became the capital. Next the Greeks arose against their oppressor and for six years bitterly fought the Turks alone. Then other nations came to the rescue, and Greece became a nation independent of Turkey in 1829.

In 1853 Russia started to drive the Turks from Europe, but England and France, to their shame, **THE CRIMEAN WAR** came to the aid of Turkey. England did this because she feared with Russia in control of Constantinople, England's route to the east through the Suez Canal would be in peril. France had a grudge against Russia for defeating Napoleon years before, so she stooped with England to help the cruel Turks. This war was known as the Crimean War. It did not solve the Eastern question, for Turkey was left in possession of the Dardanelles and Russia was defeated. The Sultan

of Turkey promised better treatment of his Christian subjects if he were allowed to keep his territory. He did not keep his promise, however, but treated them even worse than before.

In 1866 Roumania claimed and won her independence from Turkey. The Roumanians were decendants of the Romans. The Bulgarians next rose against the Turks, but their masters butchered them by the thousands and destroyed sixty-five of their villages with indescribable cruelty. The atrocity of their crimes filled all Europe with horror. Gladstone, the English statesman, denounced the "unspeakable Turk" and demanded that England cease to support such barbarians. He urged that they be "expelled bag and baggage" from Europe.

Presently Serbia, Montenegro and Bulgaria, all Slav states—their people being related to the Russians—declared war on Turkey. **SLAVS WAR ON TURKS, 1876** They were supported by Russia, who wished to aid her fellow Slavs. It was not long before the Russians were again marching on Constantinople. The Sultan begged for peace and the treaty of San Stefano was made between Russia and Turkey in 1878. It gave complete independence to Serbia, Montenegro and Roumania with larger boundaries. Bulgaria was made a self-governing state with wide frontiers tributary only to the Sultan. Only a broken strip across the peninsula was left to Turkey and she was almost edged out of Europe.

But to the shame and selfishness of the other powers, they again intervened and demanded a change in the treaty. They said the Eastern question could not be settled by one nation, for it affected them all, and they all demanded a voice in the settlement. England feared Russia was coming uncom-

fortably close to the Straits at Constantinople as she thought the Balkan states would become mere tools of Russia. Austria also protested loudly, for she wished a part of the spoils of Turkey for herself, and Germany was glad to help her get her share. Russia objected to allowing those who had not fought, to decide the outcome of her victory. However, she could not face all these nations in arms, so she agreed to a meeting which was called the Congress of Berlin (1878).

Bismarck was at the Congress of Berlin and sided with Austria, giving her claim to the provinces of **THE CONGRESS OF BERLIN** Bosnia and Herzegovina which, being peopled with Slavs, should have gone to Serbia. England took the island of Cyprus and Bulgaria's boundaries were reduced and the land given back to Turkey. The result was that though Turkey's territory was much reduced, it was not so much cut off as in the treaty of San Stefano. Turkey's population was, however, reduced from 17 millions to 6 millions and she would have been put off the peninsula by Russia except for the selfish jealousy concerning the Straits of the Dardanelles. And so more bloody wars must follow.

Following up the Congress of Berlin, Austro-Hungary in 1908 made Bosnia and Herzegovina a real part of her Empire. Serbia was much embittered by this, as she thought these Slav provinces were hers by right and they would have given her an outlet to the Adriatic Sea for her trade. Now she was hemmed in on all sides and her war spirit again flamed up.

For many, many years the Serbians had longed to unite Serbia, Bosnia, Herzegovina and Montenegro, states which were all peopled by the Slav race.

They dreamed of restoring the old Serbian Empire of the Middle Ages with an outlet on the Adriatic Sea. Serbia, alone, of all the states of Europe, except Switzerland, could not reach the sea to market her products.

In 1912 there was a general war among the Balkan states. At first they defeated Turkey and were **BALKAN WARS** about to take nearly all her land when they fell to quarreling over who should have it and began fighting among themselves. Bulgaria finally got the worst of the bargain. Austria did not take part, but when peace was made she again prevented Serbia from getting an outlet to the Adriatic.

Just at this time (1913) Austria secretly informed her ally, Italy, that she, Austria, was prepared to make war on Serbia. She asked Italy to join her according to their treaty of alliance. But Italy replied that Austria was about to make war on Serbia without any excuse. It would not be a war of defense on Austria's part. According to the terms of the alliance, Italy was to aid only in defensive warfare. So Italy refused to join Austria against Serbia in 1913. For some reason Austria gave up her plan, but we know from this that she was only waiting for the slightest excuse to attack Serbia. This brings us to the fateful year of 1914 with the Balkan question still unsettled.

CHAPTER IV

EUROPE TAKES FIRE

The spark that set all Europe aflame was lighted **June 28, 1914**. On this day an assassin slew Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the heir to the Austrian throne, together with his wife, as they were riding in their carriage in the streets of Sarajèvo, the capital of Bosnia. The men who threw the bomb that caused the death of this royal couple were Austrian subjects and natives of Bosnia; however, they were Slavs by race and Austria declared that there was a society of Serbians who had arranged this dreadful crime and that they were trying to destroy the Austrian Empire by killing the heir to the throne.

We remember that some years before (1908) Austria had forcibly taken over Bosnia and annexed it to her Empire and this assassination of the Crown Prince was supposed to be a mad protest against the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. But Austria claimed that Serbia was responsible for the trouble, although it was committed by Austrian subjects on Austrian territory. All the world knew that the slaying of the heir to the Austrian throne was a crime that would lead to serious consequences and waited with bated breath for the outcome.

Strange to say, Austria for a whole month said almost nothing about the affair, but all the time she **AUSTRIA'S** was secretly planning to bring on war **ULTIMATUM** and was being advised and urged on by Germany. Suddenly, on July 23, 1914, she

sent an ultimatum to Serbia demanding a reply within forty-eight hours. She gave Serbia no time to investigate the matter and find out the truth about the secret organization or the reason for the crime. The tones of Austria's demand were haughty and insulting, and it was plain that she had made up her mind to fight.

All the governments of Europe were at once informed what was going on. Austria's demands of Serbia were very humiliating, but England, Russia, and France, realizing that Austria had suffered a wrong, urged Serbia to comply if she could. They also asked Austria for more time to talk matters over. This she refused, and it was evident that she was bent on war. On July 25, Serbia answered and accepted all the eleven demands made by Austria except one. She refused to allow Austrian agents to have a hand in the investigation of the society in Serbia. Serbia said that she would report to the Austrian agents the progress of her own efforts to suppress this society. She said that if Austria was not satisfied with this, she would submit the whole matter to the Hague Peace Court or to any other tribunal which might be made up by the powers of Europe. This was surely a most reasonable reply to the haughty demands of Austro-Hungary.

But the Austrian minister at Belgrade had hardly read the reply before he asked for his passports, broke off relations with Serbia, and left for Vienna. His conduct plainly showed that he had had his instructions to do this, no matter what the Serbians were willing to promise, unless it complied with all their demands to the letter. And so the world was set on fire.

Immediately the wires buzzed with passing com-

munications all over Europe. Statesmen and rulers **ATTEMPTS** were conferring in every capital and **FOR PEACE** event followed event very rapidly. England proposed to Germany that the points at issue between Austria and Serbia should be taken up at a conference among Italy, France, Germany, and Great Britain. Germany said "No" and refused to interfere, though the world knew that she could have put a stop to the war at once if she had so desired. It was plain that she was supporting Austria and was determined to prevent a peaceful settlement of the trouble.

As the Serbians are mainly Slavs, Russia would not see these people imposed upon by a greater power like Austria. Russia sought to talk matters over at Vienna in order to arrange a peaceful settlement, but the Austrian government refused to discuss her ultimatum to Serbia. All things went to prove that Austria and Germany were determined to have war.

Both Serbia and Austria mobilized their armies. War was declared by Austria on Serbia on July 28, and the fighting began at once. Russia also proceeded to mobilize five army corps, about 250,000 men, because she did not want to see Serbia overwhelmed. Germany mobilized her fleet on the same day. The day after Austria's declaration of war, Russia made another attempt to persuade her to negotiate and settle the matter peaceably. Austria refused. The day following, the word reached Petrograd, the capital of Russia, that the Germans were secretly mobilizing.

Germany now demanded that Russia cease mobilizing within twenty-four hours, but Russia thought it very plain that Germany and Austria were bent

on war, since they had refused every reasonable offer to make peace, so she continued to collect her armies. France also began to mobilize her armies to aid her ally, Russia.

England was now alarmed, as was every other nation in Europe. She undertook to keep the matter **ENGLAND** from spreading to the other nations. She **ALARMED** asked France and Germany if they would respect the neutrality of Belgium. France said she would. Germany made no reply. All the nations were bound by treaty to respect the rights of Belgium, but the Germans thought they were powerful enough to disregard their treaty and would not promise that they would not trample upon this country if it were to their best advantage to do so. When England insisted on a reply from Germany she said that Great Britain was foolish to put so much stress on the mere words of a treaty which was only a "scrap of paper."

On the first day of August Germany declared war on Russia. On the third day of August German soldiers crossed the French boundary and Germany demanded of Belgium that German armies be permitted to cross her territory into France. Belgium refused, saying that she wished to remain neutral and it would not be fair to France or to Germany to allow armies from either country to pass through her land. At once Germany declared war on France and Belgium, and German troops crossed the Belgian frontier.

Now England held her promise sacred that Belgium should be protected in case of war. She said she could never again hold up her head among the nations if she did not take part in Belgium's behalf. It was a question of her national honor and her word

before the world. She said that the world would never again have confidence in the word of England if she failed to protect her peaceful neighbor. So England declared war on Germany on August 4, 1914.

The Kaiser seemed much surprised to think that England would fight to keep a treaty. His promise had meant nothing. In fact, it is evident that Germany had planned for years to violate the neutrality of Belgium. German railways everywhere led up to the Belgian borders, and it is plain that they were built to be used in case of war. They were all double-tracked with a view to an overwhelming attack on this poor little country. The textbooks of war written by war lords in Germany contain many statements to the effect that if that country were to go to war with France, they would march through Belgium regardless of their promises.

The German army moved on Belgian territory and attacked the fortress of Liege on August 4, 1914. The plan was to seize Liege as the **GERMAN PLANS** gateway into Belgium and to rush the German armies across King Albert's country into France and get there before the French had time to prepare for them. The Kaiser's whole scheme was based upon this quick passage through Belgium. He expected to reach Paris before France and England could get their armies ready for defense. Germany thought she could sweep the forts of Belgium from her path and move along without delay, but there were some surprises in store for her.

In fact, Germany expected to make the war a short conflict. She would strike France as she had in 1870, so suddenly as to crush her and then, counting upon Russia to be very slow, would turn upon

that country and make an end of her in short order.

German leaders thought they had so cleverly handled England that she would not enter this war. With France and Russia conquered, it was the plan to strike England and seize her navy in a later war and finally, for there was no limit to German ambition to rule the world, America, rich and unprepared, was to be forced to pay the cost of it all.

Germany knew that the frontier between France and Germany was well fortified on the French side. As everything depended on speed, the troops must proceed through the neutral Duchy of Luxemburg and through Belgium.

CHAPTER V

HOW EUROPE HAD PREPARED FOR THIS WAR

With all the attempts to keep peace, Europe had known for many years that war would again appear, and all the nations were more or less prepared, though none so well as Germany. We remember that when war broke out between France and Germany in 1870 the Germans threw an immense army to the border so quickly that they found the French utterly unready. Because of this ability to move so rapidly with a large force, the Germans reached Paris in six months and the war was soon over.

But this time Germany was even better prepared. The German army was well supplied with draft **RAILROAD** animals, tractors and auto-trucks, **ADVANTAGES** which enabled them to move with speed. For many years Germany and Austria had been busy building strategic railways for use in war. Besides the many double-tracked roads to the Belgian frontier, Germany had seventeen lines of railway leading to the Russian borders, which would enable her to send to that front more than five hundred troop trains each day. So that in a few days after the declaration of war the German armies, if desired, might all be upon the borders of Russia. To Germany's seventeen lines, Russia had only five railroads to this frontier.

Austria had eight lines running to the Russian border and could throw a million men on the Rus-

sian frontier in a very few days, running 260 trains every twenty-four hours. To the Austrian frontier Russia had only four lines. These roads were built not only to carry the armies to the enemy's territory, but with them Germany and Austria could furnish their armies with food and supplies in great quantities.

Then, too, Germany and Austria occupied the center of the fighting area and could move their armies back and forth at will from one frontier to another wherever there was most need of them. Thus, the Central Powers, being able to shift their soldiers from one battle front to another, made one German soldier equal to two of the Allied soldiers, unless the Allies could arrange to strike both sides of Germany at the same time.

All the nations of Europe kept large standing armies, the cost of which loaded them down with **STANDING ARMIES** heavy taxes. All nations, too, **AND FLEETS** except England, had required universal military training. It takes time to train a man to become a good soldier. So these nations required all their young men to spend a few years in army training during times of peace so that when war came, soldiers in large numbers would be ready. Universal military training is a great burden, but it was the only safeguard against Germany's speed in attack.

England, surrounded as she is by water, was relying on her fleet. She had only a small standing army and her citizens had no army training. Upon her navy England had lavished millions to keep well ahead of all other nations, and she believed she could control the sea in any war that might

come. Germany had a fine navy, but it was no match for that of England.

All frontiers of the continental nations were fortified with mammoth forts of steel and concrete built, as it was thought, strong enough to defy capture. Military men in each country worked at secret plans and weapons with which to surprise their enemies when the storm broke. Military spies were sent nosing about other nations to discover and report the strength and weakness of their neighbors. Secret treaties were made, and many other activities existed, of which civilized mankind ought to be ashamed. In nearly all these matters Germany took the lead, because her leaders for years had been war-mad, and at the same time thorough and scientific about whatever they attempted. She had built up great ammunition and gun factories, each with its war secrets.

The weakest spot in the Austrian defense was that she had a mixed population, speaking different languages. Many of them were dissatisfied with the miserable misrule of Austria and longed for separation under their own flag.

We all believe now that Germany could have stopped this war if she had chosen to do so, but **GERMANY** we have many reasons for thinking that **READY** she welcomed the occasion to extend her power. Why do we believe this? In the first place, the deepening of the great Kiel Canal leading from the Baltic Sea to the North Sea was completed just a month before the war opened. This enabled the German war fleet to pass directly back and forth between these waters without going through the winding and more or less dangerous route around

Denmark. The Canal gave Germany a great advantage both with regard to England and Russia.

The Kaiser thought that England was on the verge of civil war at home and that she would not enter the war at this time. German war leaders also quoted some things that had been said in the French Senate which they thought indicated that France was poorly prepared for war. They realized, too, that Russia was getting stronger every day. Germany thought, should she wait another three years, that she would lose the advantage that she had in 1914 because of the great increase in the Russian armament and the growth of her strategic railways.

So Germany decided it was now or never for her to take the first place among the nations of Europe.

SPEED IN MOBILIZING We knew that Germany was armed to the teeth with all her men trained, but the system which she had worked out, of getting her men quickly into the ranks fairly took our breath away. When a soldier was ordered out, he reported at once to the storehouse, where his equipment was kept. He gave his name to a clerk and was given a bundle of clothing which contained two complete uniforms, two coats, two pairs of trousers, two pairs of leggings and two pairs of marching shoes, one hat, two suits of underclothes, four pairs of socks, a comfort kit, a blanket, robe and other necessary things. These articles of clothing were all the correct size, for they had been selected, tried on and put away for this soldier with his name on the tag and bundle many months before. The bundle also contained a brass tag bearing his official number, which he was to wear next to his body, suspended from his neck by a cord.

With this bundle of clothing he at once repaired to a dressing room, put on his uniform and made up his field roll with his other articles. Then he tied up his civilian clothing and handed it to the clerk to put away for him. Next the man went to the armory, which was either in the same building where his outfit was kept, or near by. Here he drew his rifle, belt, and ammunition. He was now ready to march with his company or regiment, or to go on board a troop train. The regiments in the cities were ready to march in from four to six hours. The country districts needed only from twelve to twenty-four hours to mobilize.

Thus we see that Germany had a complete field outfit ready for every able-bodied man, with his name on it, and every man knew just where to go to get his outfit in the least possible time after the war call came. Within twenty-four hours after war loomed up, Germany had two million men on the way to her frontiers. As soon as the mobilization began, soldiers were on the streets marching to war. There were regiments of infantry, troops of cavalry, batteries of artillery and long lines of forage, ammunition and hospital wagons. These soldiers of Germany were greeted with loud cheers from every quarter. Both the soldiers and the bystanders joined in singing: "Die Wacht am Rhein," "Deutschland uber Alles," "Hoch der Kaiser" and one might hear the cry "Nach Paris" and "Nach Petersburg."

This mobilization of the German army was a wonderful feat. At the end of six days, we are told, there were three million men along the French and Belgian borders and a smaller number along the Russian frontier. In short, the men were gathered

and moved to the front in an orderly manner, and with such remarkable precision as denoted long and careful preparation for just this emergency. All the railroad trains of the German Empire were used to move the army. There were no passenger trains running during this week of mobilization. It was this marvelous speed upon which the Kaiser was counting to get his forces to Paris before the French could mobilize their army for defense.

Germany also had some new and murderous weapons upon which she was counting to aid in her **SECRET** charge. For some time after the war of **BIG GUNS** 1870 it was thought that artillery fire in itself was enough to reduce a fort and that infantry attacks were no longer necessary. But armored concrete forts were later introduced. This changed the tactics which were for so long believed to be effective. It was argued that although the guns of a fort might be silenced by the attacking artillery, it was hardly likely that the armor of the forts could be destroyed, and it was probable that in most instances the silenced guns could be repaired and replaced by the time the attacking force could move their guns close enough to shorten the range. The attacking force was necessarily put at a great disadvantage.

Germany, wishing to reduce the forts quickly, set about making bigger guns with longer range, so that her troops could stand off many miles and destroy forts without the guns of the fort being able to reach hers in reply. Her big mortars fired shells 16½ inches in diameter. They were made in the Krupp gun factory and the world knew nothing about them. This gun was so heavy that it required a concrete foundation which it took several days

to prepare. The shells weighed nearly a ton and could hit a fort twenty miles away. A few shots from this powerful gun could destroy any fort made of steel and concrete. Other nations did not know of this weapon.

Another great gun, a field howitzer of the Germans, fired shells eleven inches in diameter. It had as part of its equipment two tractors to move it with an advancing army. One of the tractors pulled the gun itself which weighed about twenty-five tons. It was mounted for movement on a special carriage which weighed slightly less than the gun. The ammunition was carried separately and as each shell weighed in the neighborhood of 800 pounds, it was a big problem of transport in itself. The wheels of this outfit were of the tread-rail type. They moved well over soft ground and could be moved over good roads with remarkable speed. The range of the gun was about six miles. The shells burst with a deadly effect, the flying fragments scattering over a radius of fifty feet. Poisonous gases which were generated reached to a distance of thirty or forty feet more. The effect of one of these shells therefore covered an area of 150 feet across. The gases were not as deadly in the open as in the passages of the fort.

The German war lords knew that their guns could easily outrange those of the forts that they were planning to reduce. There were in the forts many 6-inch and 9-inch guns which could not match these giant German guns. The Germans believed all they would have to do was to batter the enemy's forts into a shapeless mass with their bigger guns which were easily directed by airplanes flying over the

heads of the defenders, and then, by an overwhelming infantry assault, capture the tangled pile of masonry and steel.

The French also had one surprise for the world. They brought out a secret gun known as the **THE FRENCH** "seventy-five." It fires a three-**"SEVENTY-FIVES"** inch shell and was in important respects the finest gun of its size in the war. The French army was well equipped with this excellent weapon, but neither they nor the English had a sufficient variety of big guns. The German army was well supplied with cannon of all sizes, and during the first years of the war this gave them a big advantage in artillery warfare. It was not until 1916 that the Allies were able to match the enemy gun for gun.

In the last year of the war Germany brought forth a marvelous long distance gun that fired a small **THE** shell sixty miles or more. With this she **SUPERGUN** began bombarding Paris, contrary to all law. It was the innocent women and children who suffered. As a weapon of war the gun was a failure, for it failed to weaken the brave spirits of France.

America furnished one great surprise by mounting huge naval guns of some 15 inches diameter upon railroad cars. They fired mammoth shells that did terrible execution and helped greatly in the final days of the conflict.

CHAPTER VI

THE CAMPAIGN OF 1914—BELGIUM CONQUERED

Liege was the fortified Belgian city guarding the passage to the Meuse River. The Germans attacked it on August 4, 1914, two days after war was declared. They had three army corps, or about 120,000 men. It was defended by the gallant General Leman with 40,000 Belgians. Liege was protected by six major and six minor forts. The Belgians had two regiments occupying positions assisting the forts. They defended Liege with magnificent courage. For three days the German army tried to storm the forts, but in vain. They attacked in solid ranks but the Belgian machine guns mowed them down like grain. The world was staggered by the terrible slaughter.

The Germans then attacked the regiments in the field and gradually drove them back by massed attacks until the Germans were enabled to approach the city. On August 6th they silenced one of the forts and entered Liege on August 7th, but several of the forts still held until Sunday, August 9th, when they were completely surrounded. For six days more General Leman maintained his defense until the last fort under his command had been reduced to a heap of ruins and he, himself, was suffocated by gas from the exploding shells and taken prisoner. The Germans had at last brought up their big mortars and with a few shots smashed

every fort. They were so impressed with Leman's great courage that they allowed him to retain his sword.

In the meantime France was counting on the forts of Belgium to hold the Germans back until her **DELAY** armies were ready for the field. The **SAVES PARIS** brave little Belgian army had held out long enough to delay the German hosts until England could land her first body of troops in France. This delay of the German hosts also gave France a chance to marshall her armies. On August 18, 1914, the British had landed 120,000 men in France and they were soon on their way to Belgium to meet the Germans.

After the fall of Liege, German troops swept through northern Belgium. They put forth their cavalry as a screen for the main armies and pushed them rapidly across northeastern Belgium. Although they met stubborn resistance at many places, they were so strong in numbers and so well-trained that, with their matchless guns, they overcame all opposition. They occupied Louvain and then marched unopposed into Brussels, the capital of Belgium. The Belgian army retired to Antwerp. The Allies were counting on the forts of Namur to check the Germans again as they had been delayed at Liege. But Namur fell with surprising haste, for Germany now kept her big guns near the front of her marching hosts and they so out-distanced all guns in the forts that there was little use to oppose them. The walls of the great fortresses were soon pounded to pieces.

When Namur fell, on August 22, Belgium was virtually conquered except for a strip of the west coast and the city of Antwerp. A few weeks later

the forts of Antwerp were also destroyed by the huge guns of the enemy. On the day following the fall of Namur the French were beaten at Charleroi and the British were compelled to retire with them. The mammoth German army now made an attempt to encircle the Anglo-French army and destroy it. The long line of Germans was swinging with Verdun as a pivot. General von Kluck commanded the west wing of the German line. But the flanking or circling scheme of Von Kluck failed, because each time the English saved themselves by a retreat. At length the Germans entered the city of Lille, in France, for the British and French were outnumbered and had again fallen back. These were dark days for the French.

The Germans were watching closely for a chance to outflank or encircle them or else to crash through **BRITISH COURAGE** and destroy them. No army can **SAVES THE LINE** stand when the line is broken. Soon the Germans thought they saw their chance. They hurled 200,000 men against the British end of the battle line and for six days the fate of the Allies hung in the balance. If the enemy should succeed in breaking through the line, the Allied armies would be destroyed. The crisis was reached on August 26th, when the British met the full force of the German assault. Two British corps met five German corps with supreme courage and worsted them. This gave the English an opportunity to retreat again in good order to St. Quentin. The failure of the French to send the aid the British had asked for almost resulted in a disaster that would have brought France to her knees. If the British had not checked the Germans here, there would have been no saving Paris.

The Germans kept on trying to outflank the Anglo-French army, that is, to push around its wing, roll it back, and gradually destroy it. They next struck the French and English at St. Quentin and again the Germans were checked and the Allies fell back. The enemy was now within sixty miles of Paris and the second line of French defenses about that city had been taken.

By September the left wing of the Anglo-French army had fallen back under the guns of the Paris forts. The Germans had thus far failed to encircle the Allies or to break through their lines. Now the Allies decided that they must make a stand with the Paris forts on one end of their 180-mile battle front and the Verdun fortress on the other. General Joffre, the leader of the French, thought that his supreme moment had arrived. He had yielded all of northern France to the enemy, but now he was ready to resist with all his might.

The Germans decided that before they tried to take Paris they would make another attempt to **BATTLE OF** break through the Allied line and then **THE MARNE** take the Anglo-French army one section at a time. They attacked the Allied forces at their center on the Marne River to divide it into two sections. They wished to roll back one section on Paris and the other on Verdun.

It was General von Kluck who had pursued the British to the south but had failed to get around their left or west flank. Now he was compelled to draw in and cross in front of Paris to help break the center. As he moved in front of the city, Joffre struck at his flank with the British army aiding a force of his own. Joffre had gathered together all the automobiles and trucks of Paris and, using

the splendid wagon roads of France, had moved a large army with surprising rapidity. This attack on the flank surprised Von Kluck and he narrowly escaped capture. By hard fighting and yielding ground Von Kluck saved his army, and by September 10th he was retreating toward the Aisne River with all possible speed. The rest of the German army had to join him in the retreat. They continued to run until they reached the second line of the French defenses north of the Aisne. Here the Germans halted and entrenched themselves and the Allies failed to dislodge them. By September 18th, the Allied attacks ceased and the final stage of the first great German campaign was over.

Neither the Germans nor the Allies have given out their losses in the Battle of the Marne, but there were two million men fighting with all the modern arms, and we may be sure the loss of life would be beyond our comprehension. The Germans had conquered nearly all of Belgium and a large part of northern France, but they had failed in their two great objects, which were to smash the Anglo-French army and to capture Paris. They had in their control, however, the factories and the coal and iron mines of Belgium and France, and this supply of coal and iron was a tremendous help to Germany. Without them France was greatly crippled, for all the coal for her industries and munitions plants had to be shipped from England and protected from submarines in the shipment. Coal soon sold in Paris for sixty dollars a ton.

After their defeat at the Marne the Germans tried to redeem themselves by breaking through the line **BREAKING THE LINE** on the Yser in Belgium in **AT YSER AND YPRES** October, 1914. Their object

was to capture the French port of Calais. The Yser River rises in France and flows north and west through the southwest corner of Belgium. Along the Yser were stationed the remnant of the brave little army of the Belgians. The Germans succeeded in crossing the Yser and entered the city of Newport, but they suffered heavy losses. The brave Belgians cut their dikes and flooded the hosts of the enemy out. British warships came to the aid of the Belgians and bombarded some of the German positions. At the close of the month the Germans were forced back across the Yser, where they were held till the spring of 1918.

The Germans again tried to break through the line at Ypres in Belgium. The British held the Allied line here with about 150,000 men. The Germans attacked the British with forces at least three times the number of the defenders. The British were driven back slowly until the enemy's guns began to reach Ypres. The city began to crumble under the German shells, but the British line held. It was re-enforced to some extent by the French and the fighting went on. At last the Emperor appeared on the scene and sent in his crack Prussian guards to give the final crushing blow to what he had called "the contemptible little army of England." But his troops were so badly beaten that he was compelled to abandon his effort to reach Calais. The German losses were said to have been about 150,000 men in this first battle of Ypres.

While the Germans were sweeping victoriously through Belgium and France the Russians under **THE EASTERN FRONT** took to give some help by striking at Prussia. This they thought would force Germany to shift some of her troops from

the front before Paris, and in this way Russians might help to save that city. So the Russians invaded Prussia and were met by General von Hindenburg in the Battle of Tannenberg. This was one of the important battles of the early part of the war. The Russians suffered a great defeat. They lost 80,000 men in killed and wounded and prisoners, we are told, and were forced to retreat to their fortified line on the Russian border. But they did succeed in their plan of forcing the Germans to transfer many of their troops from the French front just before the Battle of the Marne and undoubtedly helped in this way to win the Battle of the Marne and to save Paris.

The great fortress of Lodz was the "Verdun" of the Russian line, about 50 miles west of Warsaw. **THE FALL OF LODZ** That fortress had been built some ten years before, with money which Russia had borrowed from France. There were twenty-six forts in a semi-circle facing Prussia. In the course of the Russian retreat before the German army they were driven back toward the fortress of Lodz by the Germans who were attacking on both flanks. This battle began with all the signs of a great German victory. In fact, Berlin had already begun to celebrate the destruction of the Czar's army.

Suddenly great masses of Russian troops hurried from Warsaw and swept down upon the Germans and caught them in the rear. This turned the tables so completely that the Russians surrounded the German army. But with great bravery the forces of Hindenberg cut their way through and freed themselves from the trap. Re-enforcements came to their aid from the western front, and although they suffered great losses, they finally escaped, except

one army corps of 40,000 men, which the Russians captured.

After receiving more troops from the west front the Germans attacked Lodz in earnest. They approached within 13 miles, where they planted one of their huge mortars on concrete. They knew exactly how much ammunition was stored in each Russian fort, for their spies had been everywhere. They picked out the one containing the most explosives and trained the gun on it. They fired four shots, each of which went astray, digging great holes in the earth where it landed. The fifth struck the center of the fortifications, causing a tremendous explosion of all the ammunition in the firing pits. This threw huge chunks of concrete out into the field as if they were paper, and overturned the great guns of the fort. One hit was enough. The Russians gave up Lodz to their enemy and fell back farther into Russian Poland.

Perhaps the most brilliant story of the year of 1914 tells how Serbia fought the Austrian forces **SERBIAN** and drove them from her territory. The **FRONT** warfare between Austria and Serbia had been bitterly waged for two months, but at the beginning of October the Austrians got the advantage. With a re-enforced army and some German aid they crossed the Drina River and moved forward toward Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, from two directions. Belgrade was caught on the flank and rear, and the garrison was forced to evacuate and retreat. The Austrians were about ready to take the railroad leading from Belgrade to Constantinople, and the Serbians were in despair.

Then occurred one of the most stirring and dramatic events of the entire war, and one that will be

told for all time to come. On December 9, 1914, when the broken forces of the Serbians were giving way before the enemy, there rode upon the field of battle the erect and aged figure of King Peter of Serbia. This white-haired monarch rallied his discouraged troops, and himself led them against the enemy. They pushed forward against the Austrians so suddenly that they astonished them, routed, and drove them back from Belgrade. Then they chased them farther back across the Drina, and even across the Danube, and freed the soil of Serbia, for the time being, from her foes. Serbia remained free of the enemy until October, 1915, when Von Mackensen made his drive,

CHAPTER VII

ENGLAND AND HER FLEET

During the last three centuries Great Britain had built up a world wide empire which was welded together by tact, fair treatment and a liberal policy in giving the colonies all the freedom and self-government which they could administer. The great British merchant ships had further bound it together by strong commercial ties.

It was the British navy that protected this empire and kept the seas free in times of peace to all nations on equal terms. And now came the supreme test, whether the British navy could keep the seas safe for Allied commerce during a world war.

Not long after the war broke out the colonies of the British Empire began to show most surprising loyalty to their mother country and prepared to enlist their sons in the fight for humanity. To the field of battle Canada sent her most splendid young men. They crossed the sea by hundreds of thousands to enter the trenches in Belgium. The young men of Canada, Australia, South America and India wanted to go because they believed the issue was a question of right against wrong, and they were eager to get to the front and offer their services and even their lives. Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa are all self-governing parts of the great British Empire. They were in no way forced to come to the aid of England, but with high purpose they all sent money and supplies and thousands of their sons to aid the mother country.

Germany could not understand this loyalty. She thought England's empire, especially South Africa, which was largely Dutch, would refuse to aid England. But again the German war lords were surprised. They could not see that such conduct as tearing up a treaty and calling a sacred promise "a mere scrap of paper" and the trampling upon the rights of Belgium and Serbia was regarded by fair-minded men, the world over, as an outrage.

With her great fleet England soon cleared the seas of German shipping. She put an end to German **ENGLAND'S** trade with other countries and forced **NAVY SERVICE** the Kaiser's battle fleet to remain in home waters under the protection of mines and German forts. England soon had all German ports of the North Sea blockaded.

In the first year of the war Germany succeeded in sending to sea several daring commerce raiders that for a time did considerable damage to Allied shipping. Among them was the *Emden*, a small cruiser of the Kaiser's navy that had been the terror of the Pacific and Indian oceans since the beginning of the war. She had sunk more than twenty vessels which, with their cargoes, were valued at more than twenty millions of dollars. Late in October, 1914, she appeared at Penang in the Straits of Malacca and performed a most daring feat. As a disguise she had rigged up a fourth smokestack and, flying the Japanese flag, she steamed into the harbor past the British forts and torpedoed and sank a Russian cruiser and a French destroyer and escaped untouched.

Scores of British and Japanese ships were scouring the seas for the raider. On November 9,

1914, the *Sydney*, an Australian cruiser, sighted her off Cocos Island in the Indian Ocean. The *Sydney* was the faster ship and soon overtook her enemy. The Germans fought bravely, but the *Emden* was beached and burned. Of the 308 men aboard only thirty escaped.

While the German cruisers did vast damage to British shipping the first year, still the commerce of the Allies was carried on without great interruption under the protection of England's powerful fleet. On the other hand, the sea-going trade of the Central Powers of Germany, Austria and Turkey was virtually shut off, and Germany's colonies were rapidly taken.

In August, 1914, a British squadron sent three light German cruisers and two or three destroyers to the bottom of the North Sea. A month later a German submarine sank three British cruisers in the same waters, with the loss of 1,000 English seamen. The next naval battle was off the coast of Chile in November, 1914, when three German cruisers sank two British cruisers and damaged two others. In December, 1914, a British squadron, commanded by Admiral Sturdee, evened up the score. With a stronger fleet he came upon five German warships near the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic. After a five hours' battle he sent to the bottom three German warships, and the other two fled. Sturdee followed them and sank one more ship on the same day. The other fast cruiser escaped, but was later overtaken and destroyed.

The greatest naval battle of history was fought in the North Sea, May 31, 1916, between the main fleets of the British and German navies. There were

about eighty heavy ships. It was said in Germany that, had it not been for the hazy weather and the able leadership of the German fleet it would have been completely destroyed. As it was, the battle was decisive and the German fleet so badly used that there was no hope of a later general naval battle during the war.

There were no serious naval battles during the latter years of the war, but the British fleet was very busy keeping the seas safe for merchant ships. This meant an intensive hunt night and day for enemy submarines, which were on the point of winning the war by sinking so many merchant vessels, that unless this was checked, England would eventually be starved into yielding.

It was the convoy system that protected shipping and enabled supply ships and American troops to reach Europe. The British fleet furnished convoys for most of the American troop ships. Food and troop transports when they approached the danger zone were herded together by wireless in great fleets and protected by fast destroyers of the navy. This made it unsafe for the pirate U-boats to show themselves. The American navy under Admiral Sims was a great aid in these critical months.

The British navy enabled coal, food and munitions to be sent to France, Italy and Russia. It protected the transport back and forth during the war of sixteen millions of men with a total loss from all causes of less than 5,000 men. It intercepted 15,000 ships taking supplies to enemy countries. Without the British navy there would have been no hope of Allied victory.

CHAPTER VIII

NEW METHODS OF WARFARE

Marshall Joffre of France is reported to have said that "all former experience in war may as well be thrown upon the scrap-heap" because the men of today must use new methods entirely. The war was not many days old before it was apparent to all that it would be fought in a far different manner from any former conflict. Once we thought an army of 100,000 men was a great host, but today millions of men are in the ranks.

Guns, food, and ammunition for these great numbers must be carried at great speed for long distances by train and by motor trucks. All types of motor cars have been extensively used. They not only carry men and supplies, but officers use them for hurried trips and they are used by soldiers on patrol duty. Motor ambulances carry wounded men quickly and comfortably from the front to the field hospitals or to the base hospitals in the rear. The Red Cross people find them invaluable for moving physicians, nurses, and medical supplies.

But the most wonderful use of cars is that of the armored automobiles called the British "tanks," which bear machine guns. They have a top and sides of armor plate and have wheels of the "caterpillar" type, so they can move over very rough ground through fields and among the trenches of the enemy. All the while their machine guns are firing 800 bullets a minute. No wonder the Germans have feared

this frightful monster that plows into their midst, breaking through fortifications and sowing destruction in its path.

Portable wireless outfits are much used. They are carried on motorcycles, motor cars, and airplanes and set up in 90 seconds. They are used for sending messages over distances under thirty-five miles. For longer distances there are heavier outfits.

We have learned that the old type fortifications of steel and concrete have been found to be worth very little. They must be built so long in advance that their location is soon known to the enemy and experience has proved that the more solid and compact the material used, the greater the havoc wrought by the high explosive shells. Loose earth has been found to give the best shelter for troops.

"Digging in" is the new term. In one hour a man can dig a pit 3 feet square and 2 feet deep. **TRENCH WARFARE** By banking the dirt in front of his pit he can make a good cover from which to direct his fire. The object of "digging in" is to obtain shelter from the direct fire of the enemy, such as the projectiles of rifles, machine guns and shrapnel that spreads out flat when striking. Howitzers which throw a high curve shrapnel down at 45 degrees make deeper trenches necessary for protection. In four hours an overhead shelter of earth can be erected. But this is rarely attempted under fire.

To give you some idea of a modern battle, we shall see in our mind's eye a half mile of open trenches lying between the opposing trenches of the two armies. Between is "no man's land." Suppose the Germans decide to push forward. A regi-

ment jumps out of its trenches and charges. All the artillery and infantry of the Allies within range is at once concentrated upon them. The soldiers keep up their dash until perhaps half of them have fallen. Then the order comes to dig. They fall flat on their faces, unbuckle their shovels and dig for dear life.

Now another regiment pushes forward to their right and their left and the artillery of the Allies is turned upon their new charge. What is left of the first regiment is hereby relieved of the hail of bullets and every minute they are improving their shelter. At dark come others with picks and shovels and barbed wire. They deepen and connect the trenches and with posts and rolls of barbed wire put up entanglements in front. Others, with wood cut the proper length, roof over the trenches and cover them with enough dirt to stop shrapnel and shell fragments from entering. Still others bring sacks of wet dirt mixed with cement, and steel loopholes, which are fitted between the bags of dirt. Then the landscape gardeners sod it over and arrange bushes to make all invisible.

By daylight the next morning it will take the sharpest eyes to locate the new trenches. Even airplanes find it difficult to get exact ranges. To prevent the enemy from getting correct range the trenches are usually built in a zigzag line. The enemy will not risk his high explosive thousand-dollar shells on a wild chance of getting a fair hit at these trenches.

It was the Russians who taught the world how to construct permanent trenches to house their men **PERMANENT TRENCHES** underground. In the early months of of the war barracks were found on the

Russian front large enough to shelter from two to four hundred men underground. They were packed in rather tight, it is true, but they were protected from all but the heaviest shells of the enemy. On the roof was some 10 to 20 feet of earth, with the sod replaced in order to hide their location from the spying hawks of airplanes. The barracks were built in pairs, with a connecting tunnel. They used heavy logs or overhead timbering and sawed lumber for the sides. Sand bags were placed around the openings or port holes.

The Germans were quick to adopt the underground camp idea. And we soon found them on the western front among the abandoned mines, chalk cavern, and quarries. In one cave the Germans sheltered 3,000 men. They had a blower fan ventilating system and electric lights in this cave. In some places telephones were installed.

Barbed wire is of great use in modern fortifications. A barbed wire entanglement may consist of from three to twenty parallel rows of posts with the wire woven "every which way" among them. To these wires are sometimes tied a lot of empty tin cans which serve to sound an alarm if anyone should try to cut through the maze at night. No invention of man before has proven such a perfect defense as this tangle of humble barbed wire.

The large guns used at the siege of Liege, Antwerp, and Lodz, were one of the surprises of the **NEW** early months of the war. These siege **WEAPONS** guns were built by the Krupps. They use shells of tremendous destructive power at long range. The 42 centimeter (16.5-inch) mortar probably has put an end forever to the building of forts of the old plan of steel and concrete, for they are

now so easily destroyed that they are not worth the money spent on them. The trenches hastily dug by the troops are far more effective in defense than the costly forts against these monster long range guns.

More hideous than anything else are the gas shells that explode and suffocate the soldiers in the trenches. The Germans first used these deadly gases. They waited until the wind was blowing toward the enemy and then let loose great volumes of gases which are a little heavier than air. The wind carried them to the trenches and caves of the enemy and the Allied forces were overwhelmed. As soon as possible the British and French furnished their soldiers with masks to protect them from the deadly effect of the poisonous gases and adopted gas bombs in their own defense. (See "Side Lights.")

Machines were also used to shoot liquid fire and boiling oil at the enemy. Hand grenades were thrown very effectively in trench fighting by all the armies. Men of science were using all their knowledge and skill to make still more murderous machines—anything that would more speedily kill and cripple the enemy. It was said before the war opened that men would never go to war again, for all these new devices would destroy an army in one engagement, but we have learned to combat even these diabolical contrivances, the only difference being that men are killed by the hundred thousand instead of by the thousand, as in previous wars.

The two most important aids to modern warfare we have not yet discussed. They are the aircraft and the submarine. We shall treat of aircraft in the next chapter.

CHAPTER IX

WAR IN THE AIR

Ever since we have learned to fly it has been known that aircraft would play an important part in war. Aside from its use to drop bombs and explosives on the enemy's works, the airplane has been used as a superscout. And, more than this, it has become one of the fighting units. It not only combats other aircraft, but attacks troops on the ground with its deadly machine guns.

The element of surprise, which in all wars of the past has been a great factor in the winning of battles, has now been largely eliminated because of the airscouts. Today it is impossible to make an unexpected flanking movement unless the army attempting it can keep down all enemy flyers. It was news gleaned by the airscouts that saved the British army from annihilation in the early part of the war. Many times the troops on both sides have been saved by timely warnings from the sky.

With the long range of modern artillery and the introduction of the indirect method of firing, big **THE EYES OF THE ARTILLERY** guns are virtually blind without the direction of the aerial observer. The armies have used a kite balloon for observation. These are huge sausage-shaped bags floating high in the air at a height from 1,000 to 5,000 feet. They are easily shot down by the enemy's infantry and are likely to be bombed by the enemy's airmen so that the main artillery must depend for

their direction upon the other types of aircraft.

There are two other types of flyers used in war, the airplane and the airship, or Zeppelin. The fighting biplane or monoplane, in which the pilot ascends alone, bears only its own load and nothing more. Its motor is powerful and the body shaped to offer the least possible resistance to the air. With its engine roaring and a gale of wind blowing in the wake of its propeller, this machine will leap across the ground, spring into the air and climb at an amazing pace—a mile in seven minutes. It must be able to fly above an enemy plane so as to drive down upon him and thus fire a fatal shot. Its speed has brought it the nickname of “bullet” or “chaser.” A biplane with a 160-horsepower engine has attained a speed of 130 miles an hour. Such a machine can loop the loop and perform other marvelous feats. It requires great skill in handling, for in rising or descending it may swerve suddenly or overturn. It avoids gun fire by the sheer speed by which it moves. This “chaser” type of biplane has proved to be a valuable scout. The German Fokker and the French Spad were of this class. The airplane cannot hover over one spot, neither can she fly at night except at some risk. If a motor fails and the scout has to descend he may crash into tree-tops or against roofs.

Should a more careful and detailed observation be needed than could be given by these high speed **WATCHING THE ENEMY** scouts, there is a slower flying biplane or monoplane which will carry one or more passengers as well as a pilot. The scout takes with him an officer skilled in observation well equipped with glasses and maps. The officer devotes himself entirely to the land below while the pilot

steers. The larger and slower planes are protected by an escort of "chasers."

The pilot, when in flight, is too busy a man to make maps. As he ascends, the first ten minutes or so are occupied in getting his height. He must see that all instruments are working properly and listen to his engine. Then his eyes must make a ceaseless round of the instruments—the aneroid, airspeed indicator, revolution indicator, oil gauge, petrol gauge, compass and watch. Only occasionally can he look over the side to see if he is in his course. But with a man in the car, or two if possible—for two pairs of eyes are better than one—a machine flying for several hours over the enemy's lines can make a full and accurate survey. Some of these biplanes measure 180 feet from tip to tip. They run great risks in the survey for they are easily taken by the faster machines and they offer a much better target for the enemy's guns.

For some time after the war opened Germany had the advantage in the number of airplanes and scouts, **AIR PATROLS** but in 1917 the Allies obtained control of the air along a front of several hundred miles. The Allied armies employed huge flotillas of airplanes operating up and down the lines. One patrol flew at a height of 6,000 feet, or a little more than a mile, while the higher patrols were from 20,000 feet to 23,000 feet up. It was the duty of the higher patrol to prevent German machines from coming over the line at great height and sweeping down on the Allied patrol flying ten thousand feet below.

The purpose of the two patrols was to prevent any German airmen from crossing the line to obtain photographs and other valuable information concerning the defensive works and artillery and the

movement of troops. If an army is able to control the air they may keep their plans a secret from the enemy. They may move up troops, or build railroads or extend their trenches or build new gun emplacements without giving the enemy an inkling of where the next attack is to be launched.

Then there is the airship or Zeppelin, sometimes called the dirigible, which is large, slow and un-
THE wieldy and offers a mark like a haystack
ZEPPELIN to the gun-fire from the land. However, the Zeppelin has some points in her favor. She can remain in the air many days. She may hover over a certain spot with her engine stopped and her car motionless, which gives opportunity for detailed observation, or the Zeppelin may hover at the rear of her own lines and with her powerful wireless plant remain aloft from dawn until dusk. Thus her observers can watch constantly the enemy's battle front and signal any change they may notice in the position of the troops. The airship can also fly safely at night. For destructive raids the Germans at first used only the Zeppelin. She could carry two and one-half tons of shells to a height of two miles. Now the anti-aircraft guns are so accurate and the enemy airplanes so much faster that the slow-flying Zeppelins seldom pass over enemy country except at night.

Much excitement was shown when German Zeppelins attacked London and Paris early in the war. Great precautions were taken to darken these cities at night. Gigantic searchlights and anti-aircraft guns were pointed toward the London sky. One Zeppelin raided London in May, 1915, killing only 6 persons. Another in August killed 10 citizens. A third in September destroyed 37 lives. But if this

was the best the enemy could do it was not such a serious matter and the alarm quieted. However, a stronger air raid in October resulted in 169 casualties. The Allies then organized counter raids which flew over German cities. There was a powerful flock of 32 battle planes much stronger and larger than ordinary airplanes which dropped bombs on German munition factories. Other flocks of Allied planes made attacks on German cities.

One of the most interesting single events of the first year's war was an encounter between an English monoplane and a German Zeppelin. It ended in the destruction of the Zeppelin and won the Victoria cross for the gallant aviator, Warneford. He was killed, however, ten days later in another air battle. On the whole the Zeppelins keenly disappointed the Germans in the war. The Allies did not use them extensively.

The artillery has attempted to check aircraft but has been unable to drive off the airplanes. The **ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS** flying scouts have, in a remarkable degree, been able to escape gun fire, showing that they represent a more powerful weapon than the guns that combat them. Machines are wrecked and the pilots killed, but the valuable service which they render justifies the loss.

The anti-aircraft guns find their range in several ways. Some times the gunner fires a shell which bursts in a cloud of smoke and by the relative position of this smoke to the airplane he finds his range. Instead of a shell that bursts in smoke the Germans send up in their test shell a parachute which is set free when the shell bursts. It remains for a while a conspicuous mark and gives the gunner time to make any corrections in the timing of his fuse.

He then fires many shells of shrapnel. These are filled with a large number of round bullets about the size of marbles which fly out when the shell bursts and spread over a great space. The moment of bursting is controlled by the gunner by means of a time fuse. After gauging the height of the machine and the speed at which it is flying, he fixes the fuse to explode the shell as near the airplane as possible. Shrapnel shells weigh anywhere from one to twenty pounds.

A high speed scout traveling 130 miles an hour covers in each second a distance of 180 feet. A projectile fired from the ground at a craft a mile high takes several seconds to reach that height. To aim directly at the plane then is useless. The gunner must point his weapon some distance in advance of the airplane. If the craft moves in a zigzag line it is most difficult to hit. Nevertheless, the gunners were very skillful with their anti-aircraft guns. They often brought down machines from a height of 10,000 to 12,000 feet. The expert gunners threw a ring of shrapnel around the enemy's machines and a pilot had to zigzag like a ship being chased by a submarine to avoid disaster.

Yet the artillery sometimes fired as many as 200 rounds at one machine and still failed to do enough damage to prevent the pilot from reaching home. It is surprising to know how many times a craft may be hit without being seriously damaged. The airmen often returned with their machines riddled with holes that were made by the enemy's guns; yet the pilots were uninjured. However, airplanes of both sides were brought down by the score by the anti-aircraft fire, the most of them in flames and their pilots

cruelly burned to death before reaching the ground.

When the airplanes were sent out to bomb the works of the enemy, fifty or more machines some-
BOMBS FROM times started out in the dead of night
THE AIR over the hostile lines and penetrated from one to several hundred miles into the enemy's territory. They bombed railroad bridges, munition plants and military works. The staff commander took the lead by firing a signal pistol which dropped signal lights to the machines which followed so they would know whether to turn to the right or to the left and when to throw their bombs. The pilots had their course set before starting and could tell by the same system that is used aboard a boat in which direction they were going and how far they had gone. They knew the distance from point to point and how many minutes it should take them to cover that distance.

Both the Germans and the Allies had some wonderful pilots. Among the foremost German pilots **FAMOUS** were Captain Boelke and Captain Immel-
FLYERS mann. Both are now dead. In the course of hundreds of fights they brought down a large number of British and French machines. Boelke was noted for his dive at an opponent from a great height sometimes as high as 15,000 to 20,000 feet. All the time his machine made a speed around 150 miles an hour while he was firing at his opponents with a machine gun, throwing 800 shots a minute. At other times he would come up behind an opponent and shoot into the tail of his machine in an attempt to disable the rudder. If he missed on the first dive he seldom came up again. He was remarkable for his quick and sudden turns.

Immelmann's favorite maneuver was to allow the Allied pilot to come up back of him on the "tail" of his machine, as they say, and when about to be taken Immelman would shoot his plane almost straight up in the air and then suddenly dive down again almost to the point where he was before, with the result that he was "sitting on the tail" of the opposing pilot and sending him to his doom before he had recovered from his surprise. In this manner he gained what the pilots call "a bead" on his enemy and gave him a shower of lead at close range. The Germans idolized those two brave airmen. They killed something like eighty Allied pilots. During the first years of the war the Germans had superior machines. But an airplane in those days got out of date in a very short time. The nation that kept to the lead in their improvement had the advantage in every conflict.

Captain Ball, the favorite British pilot, had to his credit over fifty victims. His machine was called the "Red Devil" because its nose was painted red. It made as high as 145 miles an hour. He often wandered off by himself and sought out the enemy in the latter's lines. Sometimes he swooped down within a short distance of the ground and attacked the infantry in camp far back of the fighting lines. He sought out and attacked German pilots lurking in the cloud banks. Alone he fought as many as ten machines and had hundreds of miraculous escapes. Ball and Immelmann at length met in the air above the two armies in a brilliant duel. Ball was the victor and the German hero was killed. Ball fell a few days later. After the death of these aces, Guynemer became the Allied air hero and Richthofen the

leading German flyer. Guynemer shot down fifty-four German machines and Richthofen eighty Allied flyers. One American ace, Lufberry, won eighteen battles in the air before he was killed in May, 1918, by an armored German machine.

So important is the airman in connection with modern artillery that it is said if one army had had **DIRECTING ARTILLERY** airplanes and the other none, **FIRE FROM THE SKY** the war would have been over in six months. The planes signal by means of wireless messages sent to the battery commander. The airman flies over the position about a mile up and directs the shooting of the artillery from this point. He keeps signalling how far short or how much to the right or the left the shells are falling in the enemy's lines. When he has given the correct range he proceeds to the next position and repeats his service. *

All the time his machine is being subjected to an intense bombardment from the anti-aircraft guns which are firing shrapnel shells by the hundred. Fragments of shells are all about him, beneath and above and on all sides. For three hours at a time the airman must sometimes endure this bombardment and there is no telling when the tail of his machine or some vital part may be blown away and the machine become wrapped in flames. The work is so nerve racking that it is no wonder that after a pilot is through the ordeal he is shaking so that he cannot screw a nut or a bolt.

One British pilot said: "It is a most interesting sight to watch a battle from the air. One can see **A FLYER'S** the flashes of the guns on both sides **EYE VIEW** extending right and left for miles. He can see the shells explode and estimate the accuracy

* See "Side Lights on the World War."

of the shots. Hundreds of thousands of men are pegging away at each other from their trenches." The whole conflict is plain to the airman, while down below in a good many cases the gunners cannot see what they are firing at. With the long range guns it is more and more evident that the side that wins must be supreme in the air.

Taking photographs of the positions of the enemy and making maps of their battle plans is an important work of the airmen. Five or more aviators are sent up to make photographs behind the enemy's lines. One of the machines carries the camera and the others, which are very speedy, fly about it, above and below, for protection. The fast little machines that accompany the photographer are called "vipers" or "maggots." They may be attacked by twenty enemy machines from a height of 20,000 feet. Then a free-for-all fight ensues.

The United States made plans to put in service many thousand airplanes which it was thought would be the weapon to bring final victory. But we cannot point with pride to our achievements here, for our armies had to be supplied in the main with French machines. American built airplanes were just reaching the army in quantity when the enemy sued for peace.

In the closing months of the war the Allies were supreme in the air and hundreds of great bombing planes were employed. They dropped thousands of tons of high explosive upon the enemy lines, upon his roads, supply depots, airdromes and munition factories. This helped to undermine German morale, to check his fighting power. But it was the tank rather than the airplane that struck the mortal blow.

CHAPTER X

THE CAMPAIGN OF 1915 WEST FRONT

In the beginning of January, 1915, the six hundred-mile battle line in Belgium and France extended from the coast of the English Channel to the border of Switzerland. It was so formidably entrenched and fortified that it could not be broken except at a terrific cost of life and shells. Still the Allies confidently planned to undertake a general offensive movement in the spring months of 1915. The Belgians then held about 18 miles, the British 31 miles and the French army, about two and a half million strong, defended the remaining 543 miles.

During the winter months there was considerable nibbling at the German lines, but very little was accomplished. On March 10, 1915, **BATTLE OF NEUVE CHAPELLE** the British with 500,000 men began their first offensive. In the early morning they poured a terrific bombardment into the German trenches west of Neuve Chapelle to prepare the way for an infantry attack. Before noon the village was a smoldering heap of ruins and was completely in the hands of the English. North of the village the artillery fire had not been so effective in demolishing the German defenses and the British were caught in barbed wire entanglements and cruelly shot down by the German machine guns.

In spite of the severe losses the first attack of the Allies succeeded. But on the two following days

the English failed to push their advantage with energy and the Germans were allowed time to recover from the surprise. Moreover, on the second and third days of the fighting the British artillery was poorly aimed on account of cloudy weather. Because of the lack of a telephonic communication the orders were poorly obeyed. So the British failed to gain the commanding ridge east of Neuve Chapelle. Their commander, Sir John French, had advanced his line a mile or so on a three-mile front, but he had lost 13,000 men. Thus after three days of British offensive things were brought to a standstill.

Lord Kitchener told the House of Lords that the supply of munitions was causing him serious anxiety. Sir John French's dispatches describing the Battle of Neuve Chapelle also referred to the pressing need of an unlimited supply of ammunition. Thus the first great move of the British was rewarded with poor success because of the lack of artillery support after the initial bombardment. The Allies were just then beginning to realize what piles of shells would be needed in a modern trench battle.

The Battle of Champagne in September, 1915, was the second attempt on the part of the Allies to break **A FRENCH DRIVE** through the German line in France. The battle was fought by the French. They showed that it was possible to drive the enemy from a fortified trench position. They took 23,000 prisoners and over 100 guns in five days' fighting. But the victory was too costly to continue. Thousands of brave Frenchmen laid down their lives for each small gain. Thus the attempt to break the line was halted. The year 1915 saw almost no change on the west front in France and Belgium. England and

France were not yet as well equipped nor such skillful trench fighters as their enemy. Still Germany could not advance toward Paris or Calais.

EASTERN FRONT (1915)

Early in the year 1915, the Russians again invaded Prussia and were met by Von Hindenberg. The Russian army had gradually advanced until it faced a region of lake and bog known as the Mazurian Lakes. At one point it had gone upon the ice among frozen swamps into very dangerous ground. There were only small forces of the Kaiser's men facing the Czar's army, and the Germans kept falling back slowly. Behind them as a screen Von Hindenburg quickly gathered a large force from the front in Poland with his splendid strategic railways.

Suddenly he struck the Russians on both flanks and caught them in this intricate lake district. The Russians did not yet know how strong their enemy was, so they fought to free themselves while they should have been retreating. The result was a great disaster. They lost 100,000 prisoners and 50,000 more in killed and wounded. They were driven out of east Prussia and fled in disorder toward Grodno. It is said that Von Hindenberg had made a special study of the Mazurian lake region years before this, so that he would be prepared to win just such a battle as he had now won.

While the Russians lost a great army it was their sacrifice that saved Paris a second time. The **GERMAN** **PLANS FAIL** Germans had to hurry troops from the west front and thus they put off a second attempt on Paris. All this while France and England were busy collecting and drilling armies and piling up munitions so that when Germany again struck the west front it was too late to break through.

Germany's first plan to dispose of France and then turn against Russia had failed at the Marne and at the Yser and the western line had become a deadlock. Meantime the Kaiser had left Austria to protect her eastern frontier. The Austrian army was to hold back the hosts of the Czar, but in four weeks the troops of Austria had been routed and were fleeing from Lemberg. Germany had not disposed of France in the first six weeks while Russia was well along in the work of disposing of Austria.

The Russian soldiers proved to be valiant fighters and they were commanded by brilliant generals.

RUSSIANS Grand Duke Nicholas was directing
TAKE GALICIA the Russian armies. By September, 1914, Lemberg was reached and occupied and thousands of Austrians were taken prisoners. The Russians did not stop at Lemberg but moved on westward seventy miles farther to the River San, where they again routed the Austrians and surrounded the fortress of Przemyśl. This fortress was at last taken with 20,000 prisoners and 1,000 guns. By the end of September the Russian advance troops were within range of Cracow. Here they held their position for several weeks while they spread out along the Carpathian Mountains and penetrated through the passes into Hungary, where they raided the plains of that country. The Russians had now conquered the entire province of Galicia in Austria. It began to look as if the Czar's heroes would capture Cracow and enter Germany from the south.

The Germans were alarmed and sent troops from the west front to aid the Austrians. The Austrians and Germans then drove the Russians back to the River San. Here a great battle was fought, lasting four days, in which the Russians were finally victor-

ious. By November, 1914, the Russians had again reached the outskirts of Cracow. Germany saw she must do something now to save Austria before she herself conquered France. Austria had become too weak to hold her territory. Her troops had to have their courage stiffened by the aid of German soldiers.

The Germans now reversed their plan and decided to hold the west front, but not to undertake to break **THE GERMANS** it, while they sent most of their men **CHANGE PLANS** to the east front to save Austria and crush Russia. All the soldiers that could be spared from the west front were sent against the Czar's troops.

Thus the Austrians and Germans together with an army of two million men and 1,500 heavy guns attacked the Russians. General von Mackensen came from Germany to lead them. The Russians had fought a magnificent campaign and had been at every point victorious over Austria, but now their ammunition failed them when it was most needed. It has been found in this war that no army can win a battle without its artillery, for rifles will not hold their own against cannon.

In May, 1915, Von Mackensen struck the Russian front in West Galicia with such a massing of artillery as had not been seen before. He shattered the Russian line and took 30,000 prisoners. The Russians resisted stubbornly in battle after battle, but they were outnumbered and, being without shells, they gradually had to give ground. They yielded Przemyśl and retired to Lemberg. Presently they lost Lemberg and a week later Von Mackensen began his drive into Russian territory.

The German armies under Von Hindenberg on the

north and Von Mackensen on the south on a **nine FALL OF hundred mile front** were now fighting for **WARSAW** Warsaw. In August, 1915, Warsaw fell to the Germans and the province of Russian Poland was lost and a great retreat began.

The Russian line, 300 miles long, was swept back across Russian Poland toward Moscow. An area 230 miles wide, three times as large as the state of New York, was made desolate. The homes and buildings were burned and tens of thousands of people starved. All along the roads was the proof of the terrible suffering. There were broken vehicles, old clothing, baby carriages and small human bones, the larger ones having been gathered by the Germans for fertilizer.

Grand Duke Nicholas without ammunition performed a wonderful feat in saving his army. It was the Russian army that the Germans desired to capture rather than any particular province or fort. They came near taking a great army when they captured Warsaw, but Nicholas by hard fighting saved both his army and artillery and moved eastward. The German advance at last was stopped, and they were not able to go farther.

They had won territory but they had failed in capturing the Russian armies. Grand Duke Nicholas was relieved of his command of the Russian forces at this time because he was thought to be too cautious. Germany had failed to crush Russia as she had failed to crush France. And yet, while Germany had not captured the Russian army, she had taken the province of Poland from Russia and had taken some of the most powerful fortresses in the world. In spite of the escape of the main forces of the army, it was said Germany had taken over a

million prisoners, and the Kaiser believed that Russia was out of the fighting.

Large bodies of German troops were then sent under Von Mackensen to overwhelm Serbia and open up railroad lines to the Turks at Constantinople.

After remaining neutral nearly ten months Italy declared war on Austria in May, 1915. Italian **ITALY ENTERS THE WAR (1915)** statesmen said that Austria was aiming to extend her possessions to the eastern shore of the Adriatic Sea. Italy was ambitious to control that shore. Then, too, there are a number of provinces of Austria whose populations are mainly Italians and Italy thought these people should be allowed to live under their own flag. Moreover, Italy charged Austria with provoking the war with the intention of seizing Serbia, and this was a menace to the peace and the balance of power in the Balkans in which Italy was interested.

Since Austria was unwilling to accept the Italian demands as to adjustment of territory, war was declared and 1,000,000 Italian soldiers went to the front. Italy had a hard problem to protect her frontier. Austria held the mountains and the sources of several rivers which flowed down into Italian territory. It was these mountain strongholds that the Italians would be forced to take to make any progress against their enemy. Italy's progress into Austrian territory was slow and costly. Her aim was to capture the Austrian port of Trieste and thus secure for herself the commanding positions on the eastern shore of the Adriatic Sea.

CHAPTER XI

THE DARDANELLES CAMPAIGN

In February, 1915, the Allies decided to attack the Dardanelles. This strait leading to Constantinople had been captured in 1807, but since that time the old fortifications had been replaced by the most modern defensive works. Expert German advisers had directed the emplacement of strong batteries to command the approach by land and sea. There were 14-inch Krupp guns placed so they could be trained on the fleet of an enemy.

The British knew that to attempt to capture the Dardanelles was a hazardous undertaking, but should they succeed, the reward would be great. If the Allies could get through the straits with a fleet Constantinople would fall and Turkey would be eliminated from the conflict, because her country would be cut in two. If Constantinople were taken the Turkish attacks on Persia and Egypt would be stopped, and if the straits were opened Russia would find a free outlet for her great stores of wheat and a chance to receive the ammunition which she needed very sorely and which could be furnished her as fast as the factories of the Allies and neutral nations could turn it out.

Then the moral effect of the capture of Constantinople would be tremendous. It would put new life and hope into the soldiers of France, Russia and Great Britain and would encourage Italy to join the winning side. It would also, perhaps, bring the other

Balkan nations into the war on the side of the Allies. Greece and Roumania were wavering and needed a decisive victory to show them where to stand. Bulgaria, it was known, was inclined to join the Central Powers but should the Allies capture Constantinople, she might change her mind.

So, with all this at stake, the British sent a powerful fleet to attack the forts of the Dardanelles. There **BRITISH FLEET** were thirteen British battle **ATTACKS THE STRAITS** ships, including the superdreadnaught "Queen Elizabeth" with her eight 15-inch guns. There were many others of the most wonderful warships afloat. In all there were nearly seventy 12-inch guns and a greater number slightly smaller.

The first task of the Anglo-French fleet was to reduce the outer forts of the strait. The entrance to the Dardanelles was about two and three-eighths miles wide and was defended by certain forts on the tip of the Gallipoli Peninsula. In February, 1915, the fleet began a heavy bombardment of the forts. The batteries on shore were enormously outnumbered and outranged by the guns of the battleships. The "Queen Elizabeth" stood safe out of range of the land guns and rained 15-inch shells on the Turkish gunners. The other ships, at a comparatively safe distance but with shorter range, also poured their shells on the fort. Toward evening of February 25 certain of the Allied fleet sailed in close to the fort and by evening the last Turkish gun had been put out of action.

The next day landing parties were sent ashore to blow up the remains of the Turkish forts. But the landing force was surprised by Turkish troops and compelled to beat a hasty retreat. However, the big

guns of the four forts had been put out of action and it was clear that the fleet had no more to fear from either shore of the entrance to the strait. The bombardment had also swept the first few miles of the channel clear of mines so that battleships now ventured into the lower end of the channel to bombard the forts situated fourteen miles from the entrance.

This point, known as the Narrows, is about three-quarters of a mile wide. Here were planted the **THE FLEET** strongest Turkish forts and here would **FAILS** be the decisive battle. After a vigorous cannonade some of the forts stopped firing and the commanders of the fleet thought they had been silenced so they prepared to move in closer to the Narrows. Suddenly the forts, which were supposed to have been conquered, blazed forth again. Floating mines were sent down the channel carried by the swift current. Three large shells and a mine struck the French ship "Bouvet." Within three minutes, almost before the sound of the explosion had died away, the battleship sank with all her crew on board. Another mine hit the "Irresistible," a British ship, but its crew was picked up by destroyers under fire. The next victim was the "Ocean" which was suddenly sunk by a mine. The Turkish guns set the "Inflexible" on fire, opened a great gap in the armor plate of another ship, and inflicted severe punishment on several others. At twilight the great fleet steamed out of the strait, followed by parting shots from the forts. The attempt was a failure. More than 2,000 men and three great battleships had been sacrificed in vain.

But instead of admitting their defeat and giving

up the Dardanelles campaign entirely, the British **A LAND ATTACK** decided to land troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula, hoping a land attack would succeed where the navy had failed. The land campaign was undertaken at the end of April by an Anglo-French force of 120,000 men under General Hamilton. It was a strangely mixed company consisting of Australian divisions, New Zealand divisions, Indian troops and British naval divisions. As Marshal Joffre was unwilling to spare any men from the regular battle line in France, the French had only a small detachment. The Turkish army was commanded by the skillful German General, Von Sanders, and it held a very strong position.

On a beautiful Sunday morning at daybreak April 25, 1915, the British troops landed at six different points on the Gallipoli Peninsula while the French troops landed at still another point. One party of Australians and New Zealanders gallantly charged up the beach under heavy fire, ousted the Turkish riflemen from their trenches, and then scrambled up the cliffs that rose abruptly forty feet from the water's edge. There they withstood the fierce Turkish counter attack, made good their position, and proceeded to "dig in." One of the landing parties was caught in wire entanglements and mowed down by concealed machine guns. The French troops landed and took 500 prisoners. By May the entire force had been landed.

There were several encounters, some of which were won by the Allies and some by the Turks, but on June 4, 1915, there came a conflict which marked the failure of the Allies' campaign on the tip of the Gallipoli Peninsula. Three bloody battles were fought, ammunition was wasted in terrific bombard-

ment, and somewhere between forty and seventy thousand men were slain; yet the principal Turkish position remained unconquered. Three more great battleships of the fleet were lost from torpedoes and the fleet withdrew leaving the army without its support.

Two British submarines covered themselves with glory by raiding the Sea of Marmora. They penetrated the Narrows and entered the harbor of Constantinople. One of them sank two Turkish gunboats and a transport and the other did even better. It sank three Turkish transports, three store-ships and a gunboat and returned through the Narrows to the British fleet.

But a deadlock had come upon the Peninsula. With great cost a few hundred yards were gained **A BRITISH** by the Allies, and on one charge they **DEFEAT** actually reached the heights of the neck where they could look down upon the Dardanelles, but they were compelled to fall back for lack of support. The Turks were valiant fighters. They swept down the slopes in the face of murderous artillery fire and dislodged the British from the foothold which they had gained. The Allied troops were also cut down by disease.

At last General Hamilton was recalled to England and Lord Kitchener was sent to investigate the situation. Then, to the great disappointment of the Allies, the British troops were withdrawn in December, 1915. This was the greatest disappointment of the year. The British had lost 114,000 men, 26,000 of whom were dead, and they had failed to take the Dardanelles.

Now that the Russians were defeated and out of the fighting for good, as the Kaiser believed, Germany turned her attention to her ambitious plan to gain control of the Balkans. This, we repeat, was the great German ambition that more than any other was responsible for this war. To control the Balkan country and to establish a great federation of German states in middle Europe extending from the Baltic through to Constantinople and beyond was her principal reason for fighting.

Late in September, 1915, rumors were abroad that a large army was massing in Austria for a great drive on Serbia. Turkey had been fighting on the side of Germany for many months, but as yet there was no contact between the two countries. Germany was most anxious to capture the railroad running through Serbia to Constantinople, so as to furnish the Turks with ammunition which they badly needed. Germany also wished to obtain food supplies from Turkey and from the East.

In October the Central Powers, with Von Mackensen in command, hurled 400,000 men against the Serbian frontier. They forced a passage across the Drina and the Danube. The Serbians fought bravely, as they had before, but while they had been equal to the Austrians, they were not equal to the combined powers of Austria and Germany. They would not have fared so badly even then, perhaps, if it had not been that they were treacherously struck on the flank by Bulgaria, who now entered the war as an ally of the Germans. It was not long until the Bulgars had driven the Serbians far enough back so that the Bulgar army could join that of the Germans. Nish

was captured and the Bulgars swept west and reached Monastir in November.

The English and French had landed at Saloniki and had attempted to move up the Vardar valley to assist Serbia, but they were too late to save her, for the conquest of Serbia was now complete. A large part of the Serbian army had escaped in one of the most terrible retreats in history, across the snowy mountains of Albania. Thousands of women, children and old men met starvation.

Italy told the Serbs that while she could not save their country, she could and would save its people. So she gathered at the "heel" of the Italian peninsula every transport, merchant vessel, fishing smack, ferry-boat and ship that she had. And with these she ferried across to her own shores 200,000 Serbs who had been swept down to the Albanian coast without food, clothes, medicine or shelter.

In this manner Germany put Serbia out of the fighting and had gained control of the railroad leading to Constantinople. Turkey
A GREAT GERMAN VICTORY and the Central Powers were now in direct communication, and the railroad from the Danube to Bagdad was well in the hands of the Germans. This German victory was another severe blow to the Allies and ended completely the hope of England to capture the Dardanelles.

The year 1915 was rich in successes for the Kaiser in Europe, but Germany had but little left of its once extensive colonial empire. England had taken New Guinea, the Samoan Islands and the Bismarck Islands. Japan had seized Kiao Chau, the Caroline, Marshall and Solomon Islands. Germany had left only German East Africa and the Kameruns.

CHAPTER XII

CAMPAIGN OF 1916 WEST FRONT

In 1916, when the Germans had found after their first year of fighting that they could not break through the western front and **THE SECOND BATTLE OF YPRES** take Calais by straight old-fashioned fighting, they determined to use new means. They began the second battle of Ypres in April by releasing great billows of poisonous gases, which were carried by the breeze into the trenches occupied by the French-Colonial troops west of the Canadian position. The French soldiers, unable to withstand the deadly gas, retreated in disorder, leaving a gap through which the Germans poured. But the dauntless Canadian troops extended their line to close up the gap and stopped the German advance. With remarkable courage they held the position for three days and three nights until reinforcements arrived. They were greatly outnumbered and met with great loss, but fought with such determination and courage that the story of their valor will live in Canadian history forever.

This was the first use of poisonous gas known to warfare, and it took the Allies entirely by surprise. When the great clouds were seen bearing down upon them, some one laughingly said: "What are they trying to do now, smoke us out?" But the question was answered when they saw their comrades falling about them and caught whiffs of the suffocating

fumes. Its action was most deadly, killing its victims in five or six minutes. One quick-witted Canadian officer saved many of his men by shouting to them to wet their handkerchiefs from their canteens and put them over their faces.

In February, 1916, began a ten months' conflict known as the Battle of Verdun, which will take its **BATTLE OF VERDUN (1916)** place in history as one of the greatest battles of the world war. It was a supreme effort of Germany to crush France by a thunderbolt and end the war. It employed more soldiers and cost a larger number of dead and wounded and endured longer than any prior engagement on a single point in this or any other war. The German Crown Prince was in command of the wing of the German army and it is thought he wanted to win a great battle in order to please his people and seal his chance of following his father on the throne. Verdun has been noted in history as a great fortified center. To capture it would greatly encourage the people of the Central Powers and be a master blow to the Allies. The Germans wanted to say to the world: "We can conquer the most strongly fortified position of the enemy and wipe out the army which defends it."

When the attack was made at Verdun the French were at first surprised, but they hung on most firmly, retreating slowly and making the effort cost the Germans as much as possible. The Germans had cut off all the French railroads but one leading to the fortress. But General Petain put in motion 40,000 motor trucks, all traveling on schedule time, to supply the French army with food and shells. At first it was the plan to let the Germans have Verdun if they were willing to sacrifice enough men to its

capture, but on second thought the French saw that the moral influence of such a victory would redound too much to the honor of the Germans, so they refused to let the enemy have their great fortress. So terrible was the fighting that certain positions were taken and lost several times in one day. In the latter part of June the Germans had reached a position northeast of Verdun within the inner circle of its fortifications, but they could go no further. The English then began an offensive at the Somme which brought German failure by forcing them to send troops to that battle front.

In the autumn the French set out to regain their lost ground at Verdun. They made an attack in **THE FRENCH RECOVER ALL** October and advanced two miles over a four-mile front and recaptured the fort and village of Douaumont. A few days later they took the fort at Vaux and re-occupied the village. In December they again advanced two miles on the seven-mile front and took 11,000 prisoners and many cannon and machine guns. And so the tide had turned and the Germans had failed at Verdun with a loss of 500,000 men.

The German Crown Prince had failed to win his spurs at Verdun, although he hammered away at the fortress from February until July. The valor shown by the men on both sides was most marvelous. Thousands of French and Germans laid down their lives at every point of the conflict. The French under General Petain made the Germans pay dearly for every inch of ground gained and in the end regained the most of it in very short order and with little loss. The Germans said the "French army was being bled to death" at Verdun, but their own losses probably exceeded those of the French. It

was a terrible defeat for Germany, second only to that of the Marne.

At Neuve Chapelle, we remember, the English paid a tremendous price for a mile of gain which they **BATTLE OF** could not extend. The French **THE SOMME** (1916) attack at Champagne in 1915 captured 25,000 prisoners and made a gain of only two miles at most because they could not stand the losses. However, in July, 1916, the Allies were in a position to match gun for gun with the Germans. Up to this time the German troops had had every advantage due to their superb preparation, their mammoth artillery and their supply of munitions. The Allies were now even better equipped than the enemy with instruments for trench warfare.

At this battle of the Somme some new factors were disclosed. The British soon showed that they **ALLIES SUPERIOR** outweighed the Germans in guns **IN MEN AND GUNS** and ammunition. It was said that in the bombardment the British used 500,000 shells a day. Mountains of shells were fired to clear the way for the infantry. They drove a bulge into the German front 20 miles in breadth and 9 miles deep at the deepest point. They captured scores of villages and fortified positions and conquered the ridge overlooking Baupaume. The German loss was estimated at about 700,000 men including 95,000 prisoners, 135 heavy guns, 180 field-pieces and 1400 machine guns. The Germans claimed that the Allies lost between 800,000 and 900,000 men. Now the winter rainy season set in and stopped the Allied operations, but the British army had proven that they had mastered the new methods of warfare and they looked forward to spring.

An incident of this year, and a most dramatic one,

was the coming of Russian soldiers to France. They were greeted everywhere with much enthusiasm and after a few weeks of drilling were sent to the front to fight. The men were sent by the Czar as a token of the firmness of his friendship for the Allies.

ITALIAN AND TURKISH FRONTS

One result of the failure of the Allies at the Dardanelles was to release the Turkish army of something like 200,000 men to be used **THE BAGDAD CAMPAIGN (1916)** elsewhere. The Turks at once planned a campaign against Egypt to take possession of the Suez Canal and cut off England from her direct route to India and Australia.

The difficulties of an attack against the Suez Canal were enormous. The attacking forces must drag their artillery and carry their pontoon bridges more than a hundred miles through the desert of the Sinai Peninsula. At the end of their long, hard journey the Turks would find the Canal guarded by warships and by a large force of Colonial and Egyptian troops.

In January 1916 the Turkish commander with an army of thirty or forty thousand men crossed the **SUEZ ATTACKED** Sinai Peninsula. The main Turkish columns reached the Canal in the nights of February 2 and 3. Dragging their pontoons, the Turks ran to the water's edge and began to build a bridge across the Canal. They were discovered by the British troops on the west side and the battle began in earnest. Under the murderous fire of the English guns the Turks attempted to cross the Canal in boats and rafts. One boatload actually reached the western banks and attacked the British from the rear. But with torpedo boats and gunboats the Brit-

ish frustrated the attempt to bridge the Canal and in the middle of the afternoon the Turks fled leaving 500 men killed and 600 prisoners. The main Turkish force, however, made good its retreat.

The British now began a campaign to reach Bagdad. Going by water into the Persian Gulf they defeated the Turks and captured Busrah. **MARCH ON BAGDAD** The British under General Townshend had only a small force, but he defeated the Turks and moved up the Tigris. He again defeated the Turks before Kut-el-Amara and occupied that city. With small forces the English had penetrated more than two hundred miles into Mesopotamia. Bagdad was only one hundred miles farther up the river, and General Townshend with his small army, was sent on to Bagdad.

On November 22, General Townshend attacked and captured the Turkish defense position eighteen miles from this city. Then the tide turned. Townshend was overwhelmed by superior numbers and defeated with a loss of nearly 5,000 of his 20,000 men. He was driven back to Kut-el-Amara, where he was surrounded. A relief expedition was sent by the British under General Aylmer, but it failed to reach Townshend's army until they were starved out and forced to surrender to the Turks.

Germany had told the world that Russia was so badly exhausted that she would not be able to "come back." Therefore, she switched **THE AUSTRIAN DRIVE ON ITALY (1916)** many of her troops from the Russian front to France while Austria sent her reserves from the eastern front against Italy.

The war between Austria and Italy was carried on chiefly among the valleys and mountains of the Trentino. Great bravery was shown by troops on both

sides but there were no decisive results. All the rivers here flow from Austria into Italy and Austria held the sources of the rivers among the mountains, positions that were very hard to take. Italy, on the other hand, held the flat valleys which were hard to defend.

In the latter part of May, 1916, the Austrians, reinforced by the troops from the Russian front made a general attack on the Italians. The Italians, taken by surprise, lost heavily. They were driven back along the front for about twenty miles until they came to their own frontier. Crown Prince Archduke Charles led the Austrians. It looked for a time as if he would succeed in carrying the war into Italian territory and cut off the Italian forces in the Isonzo district. But suddenly the Russians began a strong movement against Austria, forcing her to transfer her troops to defend that attack.

Now the Italians changed commanders and General Cadorna became Commander in Chief. By the **ITALIANS** first week in June, he had halted the **RECOVER ALL** Austrians and had begun to drive them back. The Italian armies gradually pushed them back until they were in the same position as before the offensive began. In August the Italians set to work to push their line farther north. They captured Goritz bridgehead and shortly after, the city, itself. Then they made an advance in the direction of Trieste by taking various positions on the Carso Plateau. This is where they stood at the end of the year 1916 and there was much rejoicing in Italy.

When Germany and Austria stripped the Russian front of their soldiers Russia saw her opportunity.

BRUSILOFF INVADES GALICIA (1916) With a great army and a vast store of ammunition and heavy

artillery the Russian commander, Brussiloff, attacked along a front of 150 miles on the southern battle line in June. The Russian army numbered three to one against the Austrians who defended the line. Brussiloff broke through, making a wide gap, and the Austrian troops began a headlong retreat to save themselves.

They lost 300,000 men and great booty of supplies, munitions and artillery. In a few weeks of fighting the Russians pushed their enemy back for forty miles and won back 15,000 square miles of territory, more than twice what the Germans held in France. The Germans in four months at Verdun had pushed the French back less than ten miles. Germany had to take back her statement that Russia had been put out of the war.

CHAPTER XIII

ROUMANIA CONQUERED, 1916

This Russian success along with the German failure at Verdun induced Roumania to throw in her lot with the Allies. So in August, 1916, she declared war against Austro-Hungary. Roumania said there were many Roumanians in Hungary, who were suffering from oppression and that the ambition of Austro-Hungary to extend her power was a menace to the liberty and ambition of Roumania. The way Austro-Hungary had treated Serbia showed that the war was one of conquest and territorial gain and Roumania herself was in danger of being drawn in and overwhelmed by the Central Powers. She said that the war had already shown that the Central Powers would tear up treaties if it suited their interests to do so, and she was entering the war on the side of the Allies to hasten the end of the conflict.

Immediately after this declaration Roumanian troops entered Transylvania, a part of Austria's **ROUMANIAN ARMY** empire, and met with some success. But Roumania had risked everything in this invasion of Austro-Hungary and left the Danube River unprotected and open to attack by the Bulgarians. We are told that Roumania refused at this time to listen to the advice of the Allies either as to the time when she should declare war or as to what campaign she would follow. At any rate she started out under an ill star. She was too late to be helped by Brussiloff's victory, which was

then practically over, and Germany and Austria were free to concentrate their attention against her. So, with short sightedness, this little country threw her main forces at once across the Carpathian passes into Austro-Hungary.

Before the month ended Roumanian armies had occupied Kronstadt and other cities and had full control of the Vulcan Pass. The country was rejoicing at her splendid success and so were the Allies, but a sudden change came about. The Germans had planned their campaign against Roumania with much care. They now came forward with great suddenness, General Von Mackensen with a Turk-Bulgar army pushed his way through Roumania's back door between the Danube and the Black Sea and began a drive north. All the time the Roumanian army was winning easy victories in Transylvania, Von Mackensen was advancing rapidly taking everything in his path. At last the Roumanians awoke to their danger in the rear and recalled some of their troops to send against Von Mackensen. Russian troops also came in and joined the Roumanians in the south, and for a time they held Von Mackensen.

On Roumania's western front a German general, Von Falkenhayn, then led an attack against the Roumanians and defeated them at Hermanstadt. The Germans continued to win along this front, but the Roumanians stubbornly held the mountain passes. In October Von Mackensen pushed farther north and took Constanza and the Russo-Roumanian troops retreated to the north. In November Von Falkenhayn took several mountain passes and entered Roumania from the west. The Russians made a desperate at-

tempt to help Roumania by attacking the Germans farther north, but in the end Von Mackensen swept on and forced the crossing of the Danube southwest of Bucharest, the capital of Roumania. Bucharest was now threatened from northwest, west and south. In December the Roumanians abandoned their capital and the victorious Germans entered.

The Russians screened the retreating Roumanians, but even with this aid they were outmaneuvered, outnumbered and outfought. They saw the hopelessness of trying to make another stand and preferred to save their armies from capture. So they retreated to the Russian frontier.

This was the crowning victory of the German campaign. They had secured the oil wells and wheat **GERMAN PEACE PROPOSAL** fields of Roumania and had opened up several roads to Constantinople, one by water by way of the Danube and the Black Sea. An offer of general peace terms to the Allies was then made by the Central Powers. They offered their peace terms in the tone of a victorious conqueror. They said Germany had been forced into the war. In fact, the Kaiser says this on all occasions thinking perhaps the world, or at least the German people, will come to believe it.

In the offer of peace the Central Powers offered to restore Belgium and evacuate the territory captured in northern France during the war. They wanted to establish an independent kingdom of Poland and Lithuania in Russia. But they wanted to keep Serbia though they promised to divide some of its territory with Bulgaria. They also demanded that Italy should give back the territory she had conquered. Germany further demanded that her colonies be restored to

her while Constantinople should be retained by Turkey.

The Allies ignored this offer of peace from Germany, for they believed that she was willing to stop fighting only because she had got all that she was fighting for. She was demanding full control of the Balkans and had fairly at her command the Middle Europe Empire of her dreams, which was to reach from the Baltic Sea to the Persian Gulf, and this was her real reason for wanting peace.

During this year of the war the Allies failed to strike together and thus the Central Powers using **ALLIED FAILURE** their strategic railways, shifted their reserves back and forth to great advantage. The Allies needed a few lessons in "team work." The problem of providing mountains of shells on all fronts was a stupendous one and to provide them so all could strike at once was impossible.

Supplies to Russia could reach her only by the long Trans-Siberian railway or by way of Archangel on the White Sea. This port, however, is frozen over and useless a large part of the year. But now Russia has a new harbor, Kola, on the shores of the Arctic Ocean. This port, though farther north than Archangel, is free from ice the year round on account of the warm Gulf stream. To this port Russia has now completed a railway. With American railroad engineers sent to help, Russia had begun to solve her transportation problems.

CHAPTER XIV

THE CZAR LOSES HIS THRONE

What is perhaps the most important event of modern times occurred on March 9, 1917. It was a revolution in Russia which resulted in the overthrow of the Czar. His downfall was accomplished with such dramatic suddenness that it dazed the world. The Czar had allowed the Russian government to fall into the hands of men who were in sympathy with Germany and traitors to the best interests of the nation. These pro-German officials did everything they could in the Russian campaign to aid Germany. They even attempted to make peace between Germany and Russia in 1916, but the Russian Duma, or Congress, would not consent. They succeeded, however, in paralyzing the army as far as fighting was concerned.

Artillery was sent from France to the Roumanians in the fall of 1916, but through the influence of these German sympathizers it was lost in the Ural mountains. Ammunition sent for these guns by way of Archangel was held until it was destroyed by German agents at that port. The defeat of Roumania was due in great part to the lack of support from Russia. As long as German influence was so strong in Russia there was no hope for the Russian army. The Allies were greatly discouraged at the condition at the Russian capital of Petrograd.

At last the whole Russian nation, seeing the Czar dominated by the enemy, came to realize that it was **THE CZAR** time for the people to assert their rights, **ABDICATIONS** and sooner than could be believed, the powerful citadel of Czarism fell like a castle built upon the sands. Within five days the people of the Empire awoke and seized the government. Regiment by regiment the troops of Petrograd and Moscow, with their commanders, went over to the people. Even the Czar's bodyguard of Cossacks quickly deserted him. The men who had held the nation in their hands were cast off, a few disloyal officials were hanged, and the Russian congress, or Duma, took charge of the situation. A document was written to which the Czar was to be forced to affix his signature and abdicate the throne of Russia. With this document they proceeded to a station where they might halt the train on which the Czar was riding to Petrograd. The Czar, deserted by his army, was helpless. He signed away his throne for himself and his son. The family of Romanoff which had ruled Russia for three hundred years with a mailed fist and bloody saber was now dethroned. Perhaps no ruler in history will be held responsible for so much oppression, bloodshed and tyranny as this Nicholas Romanoff, Czar of Russia.

The pro-German element had gotten control of the government largely through the influence of the Czarina who was a German princess. She had strongly opposed the war and her will was strong with her royal husband. But now the portraits of the Czar and his family were burned by the people and the Romanoff insignia were torn from the walls of the government buildings. The winter palace of the

Czar was taken over by the government and occupied by the Russian Duma.

The United States lost no time in recognizing the new Russian republic. We soon sent some of our best statesmen and engineers to aid in building up the new state. The task before the new government of Russia was enormous. It was a gigantic problem to change the whole governmental plan, and to do this while the country was at war was stupendous. The railroads of Russia are miserably insufficient and there are no good roads. This makes the problem of feeding the cities and the armies very difficult.

Russia owned one-seventh of the earth, with a population of two hundred millions of people made up of some thirty different races or tribes. Among them were one hundred three different dialects and languages. The people ranged from the highly educated group to the wandering tribes of a half-savage people.

The educated and propertied classes of Russia number but few, perhaps only ten or fifteen per cent, **DARK** while the illiterate workmen and peasants **PEOPLES** are counted by millions. At least eighty per cent of the Russians can neither read nor write. These peasants and city workers are what the upper group in Russia have called the dark peoples and they have been kept dark through long centuries because the ruling class feared that education would make them unwilling longer to bear the yoke of toil and slavery. Therefore education for them was thought dangerous. Whoever tried to lift up these down-trodden masses of Russia was exiled to Siberia.

Thus the great armies of Russia did not know

what they were fighting for, nor did many even know against whom they fought. They were driven into battle as cattle to slaughter. Often there were three lines advancing of which only the first was armed. The rear lines were to seize the guns of those who fell in the front ranks. There had been four millions of casualties in Russia's armies and a million and a half killed.

The masses of Russia being in darkness did not understand what liberty and self-government mean. Whether free Russia would remain faithful to her Allies was doubtful. But the Allies rejoiced that the autocratic Czar and his military lords were overthrown, for they had been an embarrassment in the Allied fight for world freedom. It now became a war of democracy against autocracy—a war to establish the rule of the people against the tyranny of kings.

CHAPTER XV

SUBMARINE WARFARE

One of the new engines of death which came largely into use in this war and which at last brought us into conflict with Germany was the submarine. The Germans call it the "Unter See" or U-boat. It was invented in the United States, but Germany and other nations have developed it until it is a powerful weapon in sea warfare.

The submarine is made of a thin shell of steel about half an inch thick so as not to be heavy. Thus it is easily sunk by a small gun shell. The U-boat is propelled on the surface of the water by gasoline power, but when submerged it must move by electricity. The U-boat can remain under water for several days if it is motionless, but if it uses up its electric power to move about it must come to the surface in about six hours to recharge its batteries. This is the time when our motor boats and destroyers can get in their work.

When the U-boat is just under the water it can see all about it on the surface for several miles by means of a periscope, which is a seeing tube extending from the boat above the water. The periscope is fitted with mirrors and lenses which enables the man under water to see any approaching ship. When the image of its victim crosses a certain hair line seen in the periscope, it is time for the gunner in the submarine to fire his torpedo.

The modern automobile torpedo is a cigar-shaped

object 22 feet long and 21 inches in diameter and **THE** weighs nearly a ton. When shot from the **TORPEDO** U-boat it steers itself and plows unseen through the water at a speed of forty miles an hour. It will travel six miles before it is spent. The torpedo has three parts; the warhead, or front section, contains three or four hundred pounds of explosives. The central chamber, or air flask, contains compressed air to run the tiny turbine engine. Lastly, the tail end of the torpedo has a wonderful engine that turns the propeller blades. It develops 160 horsepower and starts the torpedo at the rate of nearly a mile a minute, but it gradually loses speed.

It requires almost a thousand pieces of steel, brass and bronze to make the delicate automatic mechanism of the torpedo. A long time is required to make one, and each torpedo costs about \$6,000. Therefore the U-boats save them for sure shots. It is fired from a tube about twenty feet long, well greased inside so the weapon will slip out easily. It is sent forth, or fired, by compressed air. Immediately upon striking the water the torpedo comes to life. Its turbine engine and propellers start driving it at a swift pace straight towards the target. After dealing its blow the missile disappears in its own ruin. In case it misses the target the motor power gradually runs down and the torpedo becomes a dangerous floating mine. The Germans were said to use a smoking device which would enable them to locate their expensive weapon by its own smoke in case it was a miss. In this way they might recover it and use it again.

The course of the torpedo is plainly visible because of the white streak of air bubbles caused by the air exhaust of the torpedo engine. Many ships were soon

being sunk by gunfire from the submarines without even the cost of a torpedo.

The best known device to protect a ship from a torpedo is the torpedo net. This chain net is slung **A SHIP'S DEFENSE** about the ship at a sufficient distance to prevent the shock of the explosion from injuring the hull. The net is supposed to explode the torpedo. Then net-cutters were attached to the warheads of the torpedoes, which cut a hole large enough for the torpedo to pass through unexploded. As the net offers a great hindrance to a ship while in motion, it is used only when the fleet is at rest. The fleet is best protected when in a harbor guarded by a mine field at the harbor's entrance, and by heavy chain netting to prevent the passage of torpedoes and submarines. Every day new devices are found to make the submarine more destructive and hundreds of men are working on means of defense and destruction against it.

When a battleship fleet takes to the open sea it is protected in two ways: First, it has a screen of destroyer ships steaming in a wedge-shaped formation in front and others in a line on either side of the battleship column. It is the duty of this screen to meet the attack of the enemy and to sink or drive off his flotillas before they get within firing range of the main fleet. In the second place, each battleship has a torpedo defense battery of rapid-fire 5-inch and 6-inch guns which can pour a perfect stream of high explosive shells at any torpedo boat or submarine that breaks through the destroyer screen.

However, the best defense of a ship in battle is its high speed and its power to turn quickly, whereby it can avoid torpedoes or ram the submarines.

CHAPTER XVI

THE UNITED STATES ENTERS THE WAR

In order to understand the quarrel between Germany and the United States which brought us into armed conflict we must go back to the beginning of the World War. We remember that in a few months after the Germans started hostilities, England's mammoth war fleet drove German commerce from the sea and bottled up the Kaiser's warships in the Kiel Canal. There they remained to the very end except for short raids into the North Sea. England's plan was to starve Germany out as the only way to conquer her, for she saw that the Central Powers could hardly be overcome on the land. By this blockade England cut off neutral ships from reaching the Central Powers, except those of Sweden, which might cross the Baltic.

Germany defied the world to starve her. The German government took control of all food supplies in the Empire, calculated just how much was necessary for each person, and by doling them out sparingly to the people by means of food cards she kept them from starvation. She tried to limit rich and poor alike to just enough to keep them going. For example, butter once a week, an egg once a month, and meat only occasionally obtained through the dealers. These conditions brought great hardship to many people. They suffered most from lack of fats.

Now, there is an understanding among all nations

as to what is fair and legal between nations in times of war. This is known as international law. According to international law a nation may blockade the ports of its enemies and cut off the commerce. We did this in the Civil War by blockading our southern ports and shutting off the trade of the Confederacy with the outside world.

But a blockade of ports to be within law requires that warships which stop shipping shall be stationed about the mouth of the harbor. England, instead of stationing her warships at the mouths of the German harbors, stationed them far out at sea for safety, thus creating a great zone through which she forbade the passage of all shipping to German sea-ports. Moreover, England made many new sea rules that would help her in crushing Germany. Since the German government had taken over all food supplies of the Empire, England said she would stop ships carrying food to those neutrals who were shipping to Germany.

For a long time Germany got considerable trade from the neutral world. It came through such neutral countries as Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Holland. The British fleet kept cutting down the number of food ships to the neutral countries just named until she thought they were getting only enough to satisfy their own needs, and Germany felt the pangs of hunger more and more keenly.

Now, England had no legal right to stop ships from one neutral country to another, especially when they carried only food and non-contraband articles. But England decided that since these neutral nations were supplying Germany from their

surplus she would stop the ships, right or not. When England stopped neutral ships she paid for their cargo.

Germany, of course, protested. So did the United States. President Wilson demanded that England cease to violate the rules of international law and that she no longer stop our ships bound for neutral countries. England paid little attention to our protest and we did not insist as we might have done. We might have brought England to time if we had been determined to do so. But our merchants were selling to the Allies at great profit and they did not object very strongly to England's illegal acts. Moreover there was an overwhelming sentiment here in favor of the Allies. Even then the American people, except certain foreign born, felt that the Allies were fighting our battles and we hoped they would win without our help. This was also, perhaps, the feeling of our government. As we did not force England to obey international law to the letter, Germany was enraged and said that she would make her own rules for her submarines.

Germany's second and real quarrel with us was because we furnished guns and ammunitions to the **MUNITIONS** Allies. When Germany failed to get **FROM AMERICA** the speedy victory which she anticipated, it soon appeared that artillery and munitions would play a greater part in the victory when it did come than ever before in warfare. Germany was well supplied with guns and munitions, for she had encouraged the Krupp munitions factories, which had grown to be the greatest in the world. But no Allied nation was prepared to furnish great mountains of munitions. Germany had sold munitions to other nations in time of war, but when the Allies

turned to America for war supplies, which we were glad to furnish and in great quantities, Germany protested.

The United States declared we were violating no law. We said we would willingly supply Germany with ammunition, too, if she would come and get it. We pointed out the fact that Germany had always supplied munitions for other nations at war. But, of course, Germany was prevented from getting supplies from us by the English blockade, and when she saw great ship loads of shells going from America to England to be used against German armies, she was very bitter. She sent an army of spies to our country to blow up factories and to do anything they could to injure munition plants or ships that carried munitions. Many terrible and costly explosions occurred. This aroused America, but it did not stop the munition trade.

At length Germany determined to use her submarines recklessly. She had been only moderately **SUBMARINES** successful in using them against the **TURNED LOOSE** Allied war fleet, so now she determined to use them to sink all enemy merchant ships at sight, no matter what was on board. International law required that before sinking an enemy merchant ship she must find out if she carried contraband goods and, above all, she must save the crew and passengers. Now, it was impracticable for a submarine to hail a ship and board her. In the first place the merchant ships were often speedy and ran away. Or, if they did stop, what could the submarine do with all the passengers and the crew?

So, on February 4, 1915, the Germans declared that they would consider the waters surrounding

Great Britain and Ireland, including the whole of the English Channel, to be comprised within the seat of war. They said they would sink, without regard to law, all enemy merchant ships seen in these waters without warning. They forewarned neutral powers not to continue to entrust their crews, passengers, or merchandise to Allied merchant vessels and urged them to steer clear of these waters. They said the German navy had been instructed to abstain from all violence against neutral vessels if they could be recognized as such, but they reminded them that it would not always be possible to prevent a neutral vessel from becoming the victim of an attack directed toward a vessel of the enemy.

The Germans hoped by means of submarine warfare to stop the flow of ammunition and food supplies to Great Britain and France.

THE LUSITANIA MASSACRE President Wilson promptly informed Germany that her U-boat campaign was unlawful and that she would be held to account for any harm done to American citizens. Ninety-one merchant ships, many of which were neutral, were sunk by the submarines or by mines, in three months after the "war zone" decree. In two cases American citizens, who were on board, lost their lives. The climax came, however, with the sinking of the *Lusitania*, an English liner, on May 7, 1915, without warning, with a loss of 1150 lives. Many of the passengers were women and children and over a hundred of them were American citizens.

A wave of horror and indignation at this outrage swept over the United States and for a time immediate war threatened. But as we were utterly unprepared for war, and as our people ardently

prayed to keep out of the conflict, we relied upon our President to bring Germany to her senses. Knowing our unreadiness for war, Germany was not very fearful of us. On the contrary there was wild rejoicing in the Fatherland over this horrible murder of our people because the Germans believed it would stop the munitions trade. President Wilson wrote a strong protest to Germany. While war feeling ran high our President kept cool. One government communication followed another for several months between Germany and the United States without satisfaction.

Germany tried to justify her submarine policy by saying that British merchant ships were arming **GERMANY TRIES** themselves and that they were **TO EXPLAIN** authorized to ram her submarines, and that the officers were even given rewards for doing it. Germany explained that if the commander of the submarine that sank the Lusitania had undertaken to save the crew and passengers it would have meant the certain destruction of the submarine, for the U-boat would have been rammed by the Lusitania or the speedy liner would have fled. She said her reason for sinking the Lusitania was because she was carrying munitions. President Wilson's protests did not bring about much change in the cruel methods of the submarine, but Germany seemed to have ceased to torpedo without warning and saving crews.

However, Germany continued to sink scores of ships belonging to Norway, Sweden, Holland, Denmark, **THE ARABIC** mark and the United States. The **SUNK** crews were often set adrift in open boats far from land. At length in August the liner, Arabic, was torpedoed and sunk without warning.

Twenty passengers, including several Americans, were drowned. America was again ready to fight.

Germany then promised that there would be no more cases of this kind, but she had never been willing to make the affair of the *Lusitania* right. By this time the English fleet of trawlers and swift motorboats, and nets had bagged most of the first fleet of German U-boats. The early submarines had very noisy engines and the British ships were fitted with hearing devices by which they could locate a moving submarine even when it was completely submerged. When Germany saw her under-sea fleet captured and destroyed she made promises of better behavior. In the meantime she was building another fleet of submarines.

From the results of the year 1915 it appeared to be reasonably certain that the submarine campaign had failed. The British government, instead of relaxing her blockade, had drawn more tightly her restrictions. Although considerable injury had been inflicted upon the merchant ships of the Allies and of neutrals the flow of munitions to the Allies had not been seriously disturbed.

For six months after the Arabic case, little happened to ships to complain about. But while Germany was pretending to reason with the United States she was only seeking time to get another under-sea fleet ready.

In March, 1916, the liner, *Sussex*, was torpedoed without warning with a loss of fifty passengers.

GERMANY BREAKS PROMISES The United States then informed

Germany that our patience was at an end that we would break off all relations with her and send her minister home unless she should immediately cease her method of submarine warfare

against freight and passenger vessels. . We demanded that before firing she should warn a merchant ship to stop, and that she place passengers and crew in safety before sinking the vessel, according to international law. Germany again promised that merchant vessels should not be sunk without warning and without saving human lives. She was careful, however, to leave a loophole so that she might break her promise if she found it to her advantage.

On January 31, 1917, having more submarines ready, Germany pointed out to us that England had **MORE BROKEN PROMISES** failed to respect the freedom of the seas and the rules of international law. Therefore, Germany again announced that she would sink *all* ships in certain limits around England and France and in the Mediterranean, which she would mark off as a war zone. She said she would sink them, whether enemy or neutral, warship or merchant ship. Germany informed the United States that we might send one ship a week to England provided we painted the vessel with stripes so it could be easily recognized. The ocean has always been a free public highway, free to all nations for trade. In these waters the Kaiser now told us he would sink all neutral ships. German promises were not only broken and our rights trampled on, as before, but she now attacked our merchant ships. America was wild with anger at the insult.

President Wilson at once broke off relations with Germany and sent her minister, Von Bernstorff, home. It was evident that war was coming in spite of all that we could do. We could not give up all our rights for the sake of peace, much as we longed to keep out of this wretched struggle. England was

stopping neutral ships, to be sure, but such injury might be paid for. Germany was sinking them, and above all, she was murdering our citizens.

Then came the word that Germany had sent a note to Mexico asking that country to induce Japan **GERMAN PLOTS
BRING WAR** to join her in a war on the United States, suggesting that they take from us Texas and California. This contemptible scheme to involve the nations on the western continent was the climax. Our Monroe doctrine, which pledges the protection of all America by the United States, meant nothing to the Kaiser. When this plot with Mexico became known to the American people, they rose in their wrath and declared that the only reply we could make was to declare war at once.

President Wilson called Congress together, and in a notable address, which will live in history, he stated our difficulties and related the insults heaped upon us by the Kaiser and his war nobles. On April 6, 1917, Congress declared that a state of war existed between the United States and Germany.

The Kaiser thought we would not fight. He thought we could not get troops across the sea. He believed that all German-American citizens would be loyal to Germany in case of war, but in all these matters he was mistaken. The simple story of why we are at war has been given by Secretary Lane to the people of the United States, and from this address the paragraphs in the next chapter are taken.

CHAPTER XVII

WHY WE WENT TO WAR WITH GERMANY

“Why are we fighting Germany? The brief answer is that ours is a war of self-defense. We did **SECRETARY LANE’S** not wish to fight Germany. She **ADDRESS** made the attack upon us; not on our shores, but on our ships, our lives, our rights and our future. For two years and more we held to a neutrality which made us apologists for things which outraged man’s common sense of fair play and humanity. The invasion of Belgium, the killing of civilian Belgians, the attacks on defenseless towns, the laying of mines in neutral waters.

“We said: ‘This is war—uncivilized war. All rules have been thrown away, all nobility. Man has come down to the primitive brute. And while we cannot justify, we will not intervene. This is not our war.’

“We talked as men would talk who cared only for peace and the advancement of their own material interests, until we discovered that we were thought to be mere money-makers, devoid of all character—until, indeed, we were told that we could not walk the highways of the world without permission of a Prussian soldier; that our ships might not sail without wearing a striped uniform of humiliation upon a narrow path of national subservience.

“We talked as men talk who hope for honest agreement, not for war, until we found that the treaty torn to pieces at Liege, was but the symbol

of a policy that made agreements worthless against a purpose that knew no word but success.

“We are fighting Germany because she sought to terrorize us and then to fool us. We could not believe that Germany would do what she said she would do upon the seas. We still hear the piteous cries of the children coming up out of the seas where the Lusitania went down. And Germany has never asked forgiveness of the world. We saw the Sussex sunk, crowded with the sons and daughters of neutral nations. We saw ship after ship sent to the bottom—ships of mercy bound out of America for the Belgian starving—ships carrying the Red Cross, laden with the wounded of all nations—ships carrying food and clothing to friendly, harmless, terrorized people—ships flying the Stars and Stripes—sent to the bottom hundreds of miles from shore, manned by American seamen, murdered against all law without warning.

“We held our anger and outrage in check. But now we see that she was holding us off with fair promises until she could build her huge fleet of submarines. For when spring came, she blew her promises into the air, just as in the beginning she had torn up that ‘scrap of paper.’ Then we clearly saw that there was but one law for Germany, her will to rule.

“We are fighting Germany because she violated our confidence. Paid German spies filled our cities. Officials of her government, received as the guests of the nation, lived with us to bribe and terrorize, defying our laws and the law of nations. We are fighting Germany because while we were yet her friend, the only power that held hands off, she sent the Zimmerman note, calling to her aid Mexico,

our southern neighbor, and hoping to lure Japan, our western neighbor, into war against this nation of peace.

"The nation that would do these things proclaims that government has no conscience. This doctrine cannot live, or else democracy must die. There can be no living for us in a world where the state has no reverence for the things of the spirit, no respect for international law, no mercy for those that fall before its force. Let Germany be feudal if she will, but she must not spread her gospel that the state can do no wrong over the world.

"Let this old spirit of evil have its way and no man will live in America without paying toll to it. This spirit might demand Canada from a navyless England and then our dream of peace on the north would be at an end. We would live as France has lived for forty years, in haunting terror.

"America speaks for the world in fighting Germany. Mark on a map those countries which are Germany's allies and you will mark but four, running from the Baltic through Austria and Bulgaria to Turkey. All the other nations, the whole globe round, are either in arms against her or unable to move. There is deep meaning in this.

"We fight for an honest world in which nations keep their word; for a world in which nations do not live by swagger or by threat; for a world in which men think of the ways in which they can conquer the common cruelties of nature instead of inventing more horrible cruelties to inflict upon the spirit and body of man; for a world in which the ambition or the philosophy of a few (the war lords) shall not make miserable all mankind; for a world in which the man is held more precious than the machine, the system, or the state."

CHAPTER XVIII

CAMPAIGN OF 1917

WEST FRONT

Bad weather interrupted the British advance at the Somme early in the autumn of 1916, and had it **BATTLE OF** not been for this the Germans would **ARRAS** likely have had to retreat before winter set in. But as it was, the German line held. The British officers were confident, however, of breaking the German line in the spring of 1917. Early in February, 1917, there began the great German retreat which in March broadened into the most considerable withdrawal of the Germans since the Battle of the Marne.

They retreated for two reasons: First, in the Somme campaign the British had forced a wedge into the German lines in such fashion that the Germans were threatened on the flank and the rear. In addition to this the British had driven squarely through the old system of the Kaiser's trench lines for many miles and the walls that the Germans had thrown up were not calculated to withstand another such attack as they had suffered at the Somme.

So the Germans drew out of this half circle and fell back gradually to a line between Arras and **A DESERT IN** Soissons. There they build a new trench **FRANCE** line forty miles shorter than the other, known as the Hindenburg line. The retreat was a model of German efficiency. They left to the British only a few guns and about 1400 prisoners. They

laid waste the country over which they retreated, burning all buildings, cutting down orchards and ruining wells and made a desert some 20 miles in width.

The French and British had to advance over this desert and cover it with new lines of communication. Much of their preparation for the spring offensive was made useless. Their great railroad depots and supply stations had been constructed directly behind the old front and now had to be moved forward to the new line, which was a laborious undertaking. The Germans believed that this maneuver would hinder a British attack for several months.

North of Arras the Germans still held their old lines. Here the English trenches were still close **ARRAS** upon those of the enemy. The Ger-
BATTLEFIELD mans were protected near Arras by Vimy Ridge which is about 500 feet high. The German gun positions were behind this ridge. The French had worked for three months to take Vimy Ridge only to lose it again. If you should stand on the Ridge and look east you would see almost at your feet the city of Lens, with its vast suburbs built around the entrance to the coal mines, for Lens is the great coal center of France.

If the British could gain possession of Vimy Ridge they would dominate Lens and clear out the Germans from the suburbs of Arras and deprive them of their good gun positions. This would force the Germans into a bad position in the broad plain of the valley. The Germans thought their lines upon Vimy could not be taken. Had they not made it a "graveyard of the French" in 1915? Not less than 100,000 Frenchmen had been killed and wounded at this same mountain.

The Battle of Arras opened with what was probably the greatest battle in the air up to this time. The British had for some months been at a disadvantage because the German airplanes were superior. But now the British had brought out a new machine of their own in large numbers. With these numerous flyers the British prevented the Germans from coming up in the air and thus deprived the German gunners of all guidance in firing.

The British attacked on a front of a dozen miles. The northern attack was made by the Canadians at **OVER VIMY** Vimy Ridge. They pushed straight up **RIDGE** to the summit of the Ridge and in a few hours were over the top. They fought their way through all the old German defenses and crossed the old enemy line, but the Germans were building a new line back of these positions for just this emergency. In a few days the Kaiser's army had lost 15,000 men and 100 guns, many of them of great size. This loss was doubled within a week.

The Germans, finding themselves in a critical situation, attempted to regain Vimy Ridge, but the Canadians held, and the British victory was thus far complete. The Germans now surrendered the last position on the hill and fell back near Lens. In one week the English had regained more territory than they had won in the six months of the Battle of the Somme.

However, the Germans merely retreated to their new lines, though no new position could be as strong as that of the Vimy fort, which all had believed it was impossible to take. It was reported that the German courage in this struggle was below the standard of the past. Many German soldiers threw down their arms and surrendered. Early in the war

German troops were far better equipped than their foes, but now this was reversed. The British were better equipped and in better fighting strength than the Germans. Germany and France had already sacrificed their finest troops but England had just reached its best. It had taken England more than two years to prepare for war, but she had achieved what the Germans believed she could never do. We must not fail to give Canada her full share of glory in this brilliant victory of Arras.

In May, 1917, the British surprised the Germans by a drive on Messines Ridge opposite Ypres. The **MESSINES RIDGE** British had burrowed under the German works and buried six hundred tons of explosives. For six days the British bombarded the hill with fearful effect and had brought down nearly 50 enemy planes. Then, when all was ready for the infantry to advance, the mines were exploded which spread terror and panic among the German troops. One hill was blown off the map. The explosion was heard in London, over a hundred and forty miles away.

The British took the German works and 6,000 prisoners. Again the British showed their superiority over the Germans in the air, in artillery and in all details of trench fighting. They used boiling oil to good effect and did much damage. A captured German soldier wrote home as follows: "Since April 29 I am in the trenches near Ypres, where an offensive is now taking place. The drumfire has shot everything to little bits; there is almost nothing more of the trenches to see.

"We have had terrible losses. Half of my company are dead or wounded. It is a terrible life; it

will soon be unbearable. He is best off who gets a bullet and need no longer knock about.

“The Englishman blows everything to bits he can see. He bombards everything. He has also blown our kitchen to pieces, so we don’t get any warm food; only dry stuff.”

BATTLE OF CAMBRAI.

On November 20, 1917, the British planned a surprise attack upon the Germans along the Cambrai front. Attacks were usually preceded by intense artillery firing, or barrage. With the barrage they destroyed the many defenses of barbed wire. When the barrage began the enemy got their forces ready to defend their position.

This time the English gave them no warning. They planned their surprise carefully and with great secrecy. They gathered together about one hundred huge tanks to go in front and clear the way for the infantry which was to follow. As the attack began the British used gas and smoke to conceal their movements, and then the artillery broke loose on **TANKS FLOW** the enemy. The tanks crushed down **THROUGH** the enemy’s wire and made great lanes through which the infantry could pass. The tanks were protected or screened by smoke barrage from the view of the enemy’s artillery. They rolled on across the German trenches, smashing up the enemy’s machine guns and driving their infantry to the ground. Close behind the tanks followed the English infantry, which cleared the Germans from their dugouts and shelters.

The retreating Germans succeeded in damaging a bridge on the main road. When the first tank

endeavored to cross this bridge it fell through, completely destroying the bridge and this delayed the British advance. However, the line being broken, there was now an opportunity to fight in the open. The British sent their cavalry through the line which passed rapidly into the enemy territory. It scattered a body of three hundred German infantry and did not cease its progress until the greater number of horses had been killed or wounded. The men then fought on foot and retreated safely to their line.

At the end of the first day three German series of defense had been broken to a depth of about four **GERMAN LINE** and a half miles on a wide front and **BROKEN** over five thousand prisoners had been brought in. If it had not been for the wrecking of the bridge greater results might have been attained. The tanks had proved a success in opening a way through the German wire. British air men also did gallant work in the battle.

After two days of fighting the German reinforcements began to arrive and offered the British stronger resistance. After five days of constant fighting the British succeeded in taking some valuable positions, but they had not yet secured all the ground they needed to make their new line safe. Their troops were worn out, and it was necessary for them to rest until they could bring up their guns. They had taken ten thousand prisoners, captured one hundred and forty-two guns, and three hundred and fifty machine guns, besides seventy trench mortars with great quantities of ammunition and material, and stores of all kinds.

But now it was the Germans' turn to strike and

strike hard, for they had brought up large numbers of reinforcements. In one part of the line they **GERMANS STRIKE BACK** were aided in their secret movements by large gullies among the chalk pits. Here they surprised the British and attacked them with great forces before they realized the situation. Thus the British on this part of their line were driven back.

All along the front the Germans were attacking fiercely. On one portion of the lines as many as eleven waves of German infantry advanced to the assault. They were determined to break down by sheer weight of numbers the defense of the British. One British battery of eight machine guns fired seventy thousand rounds of ammunition into ten successive waves of Germans. Great execution was also done by the field artillery of the British. The German losses were enormous and the dead lay in heaps before the positions where they attacked.

In spite of heroic resistance, however, the British had to yield part of the ground that they had captured. Yet they had gained many miles of the Hindenburg line. They had taken a total of one hundred and forty-five German guns, and eleven thousand one hundred German prisoners, and had detained a number of German divisions that were intended for the Italian front.

In this battle, American engineers who had been working on the railways behind the lines, were caught in a dangerous position and were obliged to throw down their implements and pick up rifles. This was the first time that our American forces were actually in the fighting. There were a number of casualties, but they showed great bravery.

CHAPTER XIX

ITALY INVADED

The Italians made progress toward Trieste in the spring of 1917, taking many strong positions from the enemy, together with prisoners and guns. They proved themselves splendid offensive fighters. They broke their way across the Isonzo from Tolmino to the sea. They stormed the heights on the east bank of the river and drove forward across the Bainsizza plateau. The two most important heights north of Gorizia were taken in brilliant engagements. Thus

AUSTRIAN ARMY the entire left wing of the Austrian
IN PERIL army was threatened with destruction. The drive was at length halted, but the Italians held their gains, and were within a dozen miles of the harbor of Trieste, which they coveted.

In the course of the year's campaign, the Italians of the Isonzo had taken on the familiar outline of a salient or wedge, with the point into the enemy's lines on the Bainsizza Plateau. Now the correct and usual way for the enemy to defend themselves against such a thrust is an attack upon one or both sides of the wedge. If one of these sides is broken the position of the troops forming the wedge becomes perilous because their rear communications are threatened and they are in danger of being cut off and captured.

While Italy was pausing to gain strength for a

fresh attack, Germany, fearing the destruction of **THE ITALIAN** her ally, withdrew about forty divi-
SALIENT sions of troops from the Russian front. Russia was no longer fighting, so Germany joined with the Austrians against the Italian wing at Tolmino.

Before the combined armies attacked the Italians, they resorted to deceit and trickery. It was a trick that had already worked in the Russian field. Austrian regiments near Tolmino were told to establish friendly relations with the Italians fronting them. The Italians met them half way. The feeling of friendship grew apace and all suspicion was quieted and the enemies ceased to be such except as a matter of form. Pacifists behind the Italian lines preached peace to their soldiers. Socialists talked of the rights of workers everywhere, and insisted that the **GERMAN TRICK** true interests of the men on both
SUCCEEDS sides were the same, and that it was folly to fight. It is even said that the Austrians and Italians made an agreement that in the event of an attack being ordered on either side the other should not resist.

If this was true there was no chance to test it with the Austrian parties, for one night all the Austrian regiments along that part of the line were suddenly withdrawn and battalions of German shock troops were put in. The next morning a savage attack was delivered. The Italians were overwhelmed by intense artillery fire, for the Germans and Austrians had gathered many big guns for this drive.

The Italian troops were surprised. Honeycombed with treachery and weakness, they were without

fighting spirit. It is said that at least one unit of the second Italian army failed to fight, threw away its arms and fled or surrendered without resistance. Cadorna's line was pierced and the whole of one side of the wedge or salient collapsed.

On the morning of the unexpected disaster the first question was whether the main body of the Italian army on the wedge among the Alps could escape or would have to surrender, because they were almost surrounded. It was soon clear that nothing remained but a general retreat of the whole Italian army from the Alps to the Sea, and the sacrifice of all that had been won by some of the most spectacular fighting the world had ever known. The gallant Italian armies were expelled from ruined Gorizia which they had won at great cost. They were ousted from the mountain peaks from which they had literally blasted the Austrian garrisons. They were thrust back through the mountain passes in rapid though never disorderly retreat.

Great heroism was shown by the men who fought the rearguard actions. They sacrificed themselves in order to delay the enemy and give their own army time to withdraw. The enemy maintained a terrific fire upon the roads along which the troops

THE GREAT RETREAT must pass, so that the armies withdrew in a tornado of shells. Gas shells were fired along the roads; acid shells set the men gasping for breath; tear-producing shells half-blinded them; nothing brought them help but the rearguard action roaring and flaming at their heels, and the superb fighting of the Italians who held the rear.

A most thrilling part of the retreat was that played by the Italian armored motor-cars, each of

which had three quick firers in its turret. The duty which was assigned to these cars was to hold the bridges from the Tagliamento to the Piave River until the cavalry rearguard had passed. They were told to hold these bridges to the death, and they did it magnificently.

In a few days the combined Germans and Austrians wrested from the Italians all the territory the latter had conquered in a period of thirty months, and the dream of taking Trieste had vanished. The German army now seized many points in the Italian territory.

Presently the rest of the world woke to the danger. England and France rushed men to the Italian front. The United States, still unready to furnish trained men, opened a credit of two hundred million dollars, and began hurrying munitions as fast as a shortage of steamships and fuel would permit.

General Cadorna at first made a stand along the Tagliamento River, where the line was protected by heavy fortifications. On the first day of November the German forces fought their way across to the west bank of the Tagliamento River, and the whole Italian line was forced back again, many prisoners being taken. The Italians then formed along the Piave River. On the ninth of November it was announced that General Diaz had been placed in command of the Italian army, succeeding Cadorna who was made a member of the war council.

At this time the city of Venice was in great danger. The mouth of the Piave River is a scant twenty **HOLDING THE** miles from Venice. To have retired **PIAVE RIVER** farther would have left Venice at the mercy of the foe. Italy was determined not to yield

this beautiful city, so the Italian armies made their stand to fight it out on the banks of the Piave.

Between the mouth of the Piave and Venice are broad expanses of marshes, or lagoons. The whole delta of the Piave is below water level, and the lower parts of the river were confined to their channels by dikes. As soon as Venice was threatened the Italians cut these dikes, and here the Austro-Germans were checked by the water. They employed every device to turn the Italian right flank and work around the northern shore of the bay of Venice, but the country was too difficult.

The lagoons were mined, and the islands fortified. The Italians developed a fleet of light draft vessels of war ranging from swift motor boats, equipped with machine guns, to flat-bottomed British monitors carrying heavy cannon. They also built great scows. These would let fly a few shots at the enemy's position, then taking up their anchors, they would move lumberingly away before the Austrians could get their range.

In this strange water fighting the Italians had the better of it, for the lagoons, as a rule were too **CLEVER WORK** shallow to float even a gondola, and **ITALIAN NAVY** the channel dug by the Italians had been kept a secret. All the work that is done on wheels in an army on shore, was here done in boats.

Motor boats served for ambulances, munitions and supplies were brought up to the front on flat scows. Hydroplanes took the place of the ordinary fighting air-craft. All the fleet from the mosquito craft to the monitors were camouflaged to look like the gardens, marshes, or houses on stilts that made up the flooded landscape. After many days of

valiant fighting the Italian line held and the Austro-German army was brought to a standstill.

The French and British army finally appeared on the Italian front, and early in January, 1918, began to take the offensive in their own hands. They drove the Teutons from some of their more advanced posts. Venice, though saved, was not out of danger. The Italians lost about two hundred and fifty thousand prisoners and about twenty-five hundred guns. It was a terrible blow but it did not bring the brave Italians to their knees as the Germans wished.

The Italian front which had been nearly four hundred and fifty miles long was now reduced to a little more than one hundred and eighty miles. The wedge or salient had been cut off, and the battle line was straightened.

CHAPTER XX

THE EASTERN FRONTS IN 1917.

In June, 1917, the King of Greece was forced to abdicate on account of his sympathy with the German cause. His second son succeeded to the throne and Venizelos, the popular hero of the Greeks, was restored to a place at the head of the government. Greece then broke off relations with the Central Powers and began putting her army in fighting trim.

In this way the Allied forces on the Balkan front were freed from the danger of an attack in their rear and against their only line of supply from Saloniki. Still the great army here could not advance because the west front needed the ships for transporting their supplies. The distance to Greece was so great that it would take twice as many ships to supply an army of the same number here as in France. Thus the destruction of ships by the German U-boats prevented an offensive campaign on this front.

After the British failure and surrender at Kut-el-Amara nothing was done in this region for many months. At length the British, hoping to wreck the Middle Europe plan of Germany, resumed their campaign in Mesopotamia, and in March, 1917, they captured Bagdad.

The Russians, in the meantime, had pushed around the east end of the Black Sea to Trebizond. The

plan was that the British should drive north from Bagdad to Mossul and join the Russian army coming from the east, thus freeing Persia from the rule of the Turks. The Russians came on till a junction was formed with the British. The fate of the Turks seemed sealed when the Russian army, getting some foolish notions about the liberty they had obtained, refused to fight and fled back into Persia again, losing touch with the British. The Russian revolution played havoc with the plans of the Allies everywhere.

Another British army came up out of Egypt and captured Jerusalem. With Bagdad and Palestine in British hands the Turkish power in Syria was shaken. Mecca passed into the hands of the Arabs and thus the Turk was deprived of his Holy City.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT

The Russians, under Brussiloff, aroused by the patriot orator, Kerensky, surprised the world with a strong drive made in July, 1917, in the direction of Lemberg. The Russian soldiers fought well. They took several villages and towns and 36,000 prisoners, together with many guns. However, the successes were short-lived. The Germans began a resolute attack and the Russians, whose fighting spirit had given place to a desire for peace, vacated their trenches and fled headlong across the border of Austria. In a short time the Austro-Germans had recovered all and more than the Russians had recently captured.

The same thing happened in the north. Almost without a fight Riga was given up and the entire line of the Dwina River, before which the Russians

had held the Germans for nearly two years, was abandoned and a retreat toward Petrograd took place. The islands in the Gulf of Riga were given up to the German fleet and the Russian fleet made its escape toward Kronstadt. As a fighting nation Russia was not to be relied upon.

There are several classes of people in Russia. The nobility, the landlords and merchants, who are the men of wealth, and the great mass of peasants and workers. Now Kerensky tried to bring about a gradual change in affairs in Russia after the Revolution. He had a plan to treat these different classes fairly, and to try to mould them into one self-ruling nation.

The landlords and wealthy people were few compared with the great masses of uneducated laborers. These laborers are known as the Bolsheviks. The Bolsheviks became impatient with the slowness with which Kerensky was moving. They had been abused by the upper classes so long they would not trust him. The peasants were eager for the land that had been promised them many years before, and the workmen were anxious for higher wages and shorter hours.

They drove Kerensky from power and took affairs into their own hands, leaving the well-to-do and the noble classes out. Russia was then ruled by one class—the workmen and peasants, or Bolsheviks. The government was chiefly in control of the workmen—for the peasants, because the land was their chief desire, were not particularly interested in the questions of freedom and liberty.

The Russian Bolsheviks are socialists, that is,

they believe that the government should operate all factories and farms, and distribute products to the people according to their needs. They think this plan will give everybody plenty of work and plenty of food. As this scheme would do away with private ownership, the wealthy classes are bitterly opposed to it. They say it is only a dream and will not work. The Bolsheviki held to the idea that the only cause worth fighting for was socialism, that the workers everywhere should fight against the noble and wealthy classes to get their full rights in a socialistic government. They thought the German workers would rise with them and put down aristocratic government. But the German workers failed to do this, remaining loyal to the Kaiser.

The Russian socialists were unable to see that there was any principle back of the fighting in this war. They believed it to be a war between two autocracies and when their own Czar had been thrown aside they believed they had their freedom and were ready for peace with Germany.

LOOKING BACKWARD

During the year 1917 Germany and her Allies had profited much from their central position, with their short lines of communication and convenient bases of supplies. They had shifted their troops quickly from front to front like men on a chess board. Russia was out of the fighting and Italy badly beaten.

The Allied plan of campaign for 1917 had been to tighten the ring of iron about the Central Powers and by combined attacks on all fronts to break through and conquer. But Russia's pitiable failure

to do her part and her complete yielding to Germany ruined all hopes and plans of the Allies for a decision in that year. The Allies were merely holding on, waiting for the United States to get her vast armies of men and her great supplies of munitions ready to give Germany the final blow.

CHAPTER XXI

RAISING A GREAT AMERICAN ARMY

When America declared war we were almost without an army. We had to make arrangements at once for the drafting and training of a vast number of men. This had to be done with all speed possible for our soldiers were needed in France.

Heretofore when our country has been at war soldiers have been largely obtained by enlistment, and those who were unwilling to fight escaped because they did not offer their service.

In this way our flag was defended only by the patriotic souls, which was unfair. When we entered this terrible conflict a new and better method was tried. All men between twenty-one and thirty-one **DRAFTING A** years of age were registered and **MILLION MEN** each was given a number. From these the men for our army were chosen by drawing numbers impartially. The half million men whose numbers were drawn first were called at once into actual training. This was followed later by another group, and then another. There was no chance for unfairness in this. The men were called as they were needed without waiting for them to enlist. In a year the United States had in service and training two million soldiers, and it was all done so peaceably and quickly as to amaze the world. Many had believed we could not carry it through.

To care for our soldiers and keep them comfort-

able while in training great cantonments were built at once. These were soldier cities, where the citizen **OUR SOLDIER** army gathered to be trained. Six- **CITIES** teen huge cantonments, located from Long Island to American Lake, Washington, were built for the new National Army. They were made ready in the incredibly short space of three months. The buildings were of wood and each great camp housed 40,000 men in about one thousand separate buildings.

It was a stupendous piece of work to build even one of these cantonments. Camp Lee at Petersburg, Virginia, in June, 1917, was but a scrub growth of farm land. In sixty-three days it was a city **CAMP** consisting of 1,600 buildings giving pro- **LEE** tection to 50,000 men. Sixty-eight days had been allowed to complete the work but it was finished five days earlier. Besides the buildings there was a year's work in grading the tract and in taking care of sewer construction and water supply. On September 1 fourteen miles of roadway and ten miles of railway track had been built. Mammoth ditching machines were gouging out the earth at a great rate. It was difficult even for the men who worked on the job to realize how big it was. At Camp Stevens, for a time one structure was completed at the end of every forty minutes.

Great quantities of raw material needed for the cantonments were gathered within two months from 190 mills in all parts of the United States. They **A MAMMOTH** used more than 500,000,000 feet of **TASK** lumber. Four thousand miles of pipe for water and sewerage line had to be shipped to these sixteen cities. Each soldier city required more

than nine million square feet of roofing and a car-load of tacks to fasten it down. The lumber used in these sixteen cantonments if made into sidewalks would go four times around the world. Twenty-four thousand freight cars were used for transporting it. Nearly a hundred thousand kegs of nails were driven.

These great cantonments were not built simply as sleeping quarters. They were dwelling places for men that are not accustomed to military life. All the buildings that ordinarily go with a modern city were provided. There was need for paved streets, telephones, fire protection, electric lights, water, and sewerage disposal.

The cost of building these scores of camps was tremendous. The largest year's cost in building the Panama Canal was \$46,000,000. The cantonments were built in ninety days, representing an investment of \$150,000,000. **PANAMA CANAL OUTDONE** Eleven states have no city as big as one of these huge soldier camps, and thirteen others have but one city with so large a population. When all these cantonments were completed they housed a population equal to that of Arizona, Delaware, Nevada, and Wyoming with Alaska thrown in to balance the scale.

Nine mobilization points were built for the regular army from Fort Meyer, Virginia, to Vancouver Barracks. Three engineer camps, large medical camps, eight or ten flying and aviation camps, nine reserve officer camps and three mammoth ports for embarking and sending the troops across the water were supplied.

The building of these soldier cities in such a short

time doubled the cost many times. But the question of time was of first importance, for the cantonments had to be ready when the drafted men came in. However, the great expense of these hastily constructed camps was but a small part of the price our country has had to pay for being so entirely unready to protect ourselves when war came.

Experts told us it would take two years to raise an army of a million men and train them. But in one year we had two million men in training. We raised and equipped a bigger army in ten months, and transported them three thousand miles across an infested ocean, than Great Britain did in twelve months across the English Channel of only thirty miles.

The American army in France soon grew to large numbers. By midsummer 1918 there were more than 900,000 "Yanks" in and behind the firing line. The United States made its own port on the French coast. We laid out a French harbor **OPENING EUROPE'S EYES** that would take care of forty ships, and built a freight yard larger than any one owned by any American city. There were miles and miles of great warehouses. We built in France in a year more than 800 miles of double track railway. We had our own railroad equipment and our own telegraph and telephone systems with twelve thousand five hundred operators.

CHAPTER XXII

OUR NAVY AND THE SUBMARINE

There is no other navy in the world, except the English, that has to cover so great an area of defense as the American navy. Our navy at once expanded at a rate that would have been considered impossible a few years ago. We have been building the greatest number of warships in our history. Within a year after we declared war we had about 800 vessels including the various types, from super-dreadnaughts to submarine chasers.

Every battleship and cruiser that was in reserve was fully manned and put to work. Hundreds of **BIG NAVY** ships, yachts and fast motor-boats had **PROGRAM** been taken over for coast defense and other purposes. Many large merchantmen were transformed into transports. The Atlantic fleet comprised twenty times as many vessels as in times of peace. Destroyers that formerly took twenty months to build were now being built in half that time.

Every warship was a training school for the instruction of the men in gunnery and engineering. Our navy has scored many of the world's best records in big gun practice and lately they have shown excellent work with guns of the small calibre used in fighting submarines. Our "Jackies" in a year increased to a force of nearly a half million men.

The Navy Department enlarged navy yards and constructed huge dry docks capable of accommodating the largest ships. It built shipways for battleships, cruisers, destroyers and submarines. It provided new foundries, machine shops, warehouses and piers, projectile plants, aircraft factories and fleet operating bases costing hundreds of millions of dollars. Twenty training camps were erected accommodating 85,000 men to provide for the recruits in the navy.

In order to send several hundred thousand men to France we had to overcome difficulties as to distance and shipping that showed remarkable energy.

FIGHTING AT LONG RANGE No other nation in the history of the world had ever attempted such powerful military operation at such a long range. There was the long ocean voyage of more than 3,000 miles. Then there was the land transportation at both ends. Our men and supplies came from the centers of population and production and had to be brought an average distance of a thousand miles before embarking. Our fighting front in France was five or six hundred miles by rail from the port where our troops landed. In a word, then, we were fighting on a front nearly five thousand miles away, while Germany, Austria, Italy, France and England were within sound of their own big guns.

During the first winter and spring after we began war we sent men abroad as fast as shipping conditions and supplies would justify. Ninety thousand **CONVOYING** men were sent across during the **OUR TRANSPORTS** first ten days of May, 1918. In order to protect our troop-bearing transports our navy adopted the convoy system. The transports

usually sailed four abreast with a destroyer on each quarter and a trifle behind each line of ships. Another destroyer went ahead of the fleet and ran back and forth constantly across its path. There was usually a third that circled around the fleet and a fourth that zigzagged back and forth behind.

The Germans believed the submarines would prevent our getting our troops across and we were very anxious, but the American and British navies convoyed transports bearing more than two millions of our soldiers and the only loss was that of two soldier-loaded transports. The total number of lives lost on the *Tuscania* was 212, while more than two thousand soldiers were rescued by the convoying **OUR LOST** fleet by means of boats and rafts. **TRANSPORTS** survivors all testified to the gallantry of our young troops. It was their superb discipline which brought so large a number through safely. The survivors of the *Tuscania* were landed in Scotland and Ireland. The *Moldavia* was torpedoed late in May, 1918, with a loss of fifty-six lives.

The United States navy took over the cruiser patrol of the Atlantic coast on this side of the ocean from Brazil to Newfoundland and we soon had 150 warships in European waters. Rear-Admiral William S. Sims was commander of this fleet.

The U-boat commanders often hesitated to use a torpedo to destroy a merchant ship because a torpedo cost so much money and often one torpedo was not enough, so the U-boat usually rose to the surface and trained its guns on the defenseless merchant ships and destroyed them without using any torpedoes, simply sinking them by gun fire. For awhile the pirate submarines had an easy time of it.

The Allies then started the convoy system for merchantmen. Vessels no longer browsed over the **CONVOYING** sea like innocent sheep a prey to **MERCHANTMEN** every wolf, but they were herded together by the swift destroyers. The U-boat, if it found itself in the path of a convoy, no longer dared rise to the surface. Sometimes the U-boat would rise, fire a torpedo and dive again at once. The torpedo perhaps only crippled the propeller, or damaged a compartment, and the crippled ship could be towed into port. The ships and their freight could be saved.

In order to tow cripples into port ocean tugs were needed. Tugs were called from our Atlantic coast to become a part of the convoy. It takes many months or even years to build a great ocean freighter. Thus a tug was worth a whole ship yard, because only a few weeks were needed to repair a damaged vessel in our harbor. Our American tugs saved many vessels. This was one of the reasons for our shortage of coal, for a great deal of it was used to propel the ocean tugs to the other side.

It was the torpedo boat destroyer that did the most effective work against the submarines. Most **WORK OF OUR** of the merchantmen that were sent **DESTROYERS** down were destroyed by gunfire from submarines working on the surface, while destruction by torpedo was relatively small. Our destroyers began operating on submarines in European waters in May, 1917. It was not long before they showed good results in helping to force U-boats to remain under water. Thus they were soon doing far less harm than they had been doing before our navy joined the Allies.

Nearly all the work of the submarine was done close to shore because there they found a concentration of ships. There was almost a continuous procession of merchant ships day and night going up and down in the English Channel and also in the Irish Channel.

In fighting the submarine the depth bomb was also used very effectively. These charges have a small piece of mechanism which is set so that when the bomb has descended to a given depth it will explode. It can be set to explode at any depth. All explosives, we know, generate an enormous amount of gas. A cubic inch of water expands into a cubic foot of steam at atmosphere pressure; this is seventeen **THE DEPTH** hundred twenty-eight times the volume **BOMB** of the water. A similar expansion takes place with explosives. When a bomb is exploded under water the gas causes an enormous pressure in all directions. Something must give way. The water between the bomb and the surface is pushed upward, and thrown into the air to allow the gas to escape. If a submarine is nearer to the exploding bomb, than is the surface, it is the shell of the boat which has to stand such fearful pressure that it gives way. It may crack like an egg-shell or perhaps the gas and the air in the U-boat escape, water rushes in and the U-boat sinks.

The first "depth charges" were those of fifty pounds which would injure the submarine only if they went off in actual contact with it. They were increased in size until the depth charges weighed much more and their area of destruction was larger. One feature of increasing the size of the depth charges was that we had to increase the speed of

our ships so they could get out of danger before the explosion.

We had armed over one thousand merchant ships with heavy guns. Therefore, there were fewer cases of merchant ships being shelled and put out of action by the submarine. In this we learned a lesson from the English.

There was no question about the surface control of the sea. The British with the help of the Americans **ENEMY** had successfully bottled up the Ger-
BOTTLED UP man navy in the harbors at home. Navy fighters say there are two ways of attacking the enemy to destroy him. One is to seek out his "rat hole" and put him out of action and the other is to place yourself at the mouth of the "rat hole" so he cannot come out. This is what was done to the Germans.

In May, 1918, British and French naval ships entered the harbors of Ostend and Zeebrugge with **ZEEBRUGGE** five old cruisers loaded with concrete.
AND OSTEND Protected by destroyers and a fleet which attacked the land defenses to divert the Germans' attention, they blew up these cruisers and sank them to form a wall of concrete to block the channels so they could no longer be used as submarine bases by the enemy. At Zeebrugge the harbor was rendered useless for some time thereafter. At Ostend the attempt was less successful. There was great loss of life on the part of the Germans and the British also paid the price in men for this brilliant and daring raid.

CHAPTER XXIII

SHIPS, SHIPS, SHIPS

When we entered the war we promised our Allies three things: men, food and ships. We soon found that these things could not be considered separately, but all hinged on merchant ships, without which we could not get the food and men to the war-worn Allies. The U-boats had played such havoc that the call from all over the world was: "Ships, more ships."

America, to save shipping space, cut off much of our exports to neutral countries; we took over a large number of German ships which were in our **USING DUTCH AND GERMAN SHIPS** harbors when the storm came; we even took charge of a large number of Dutch ships in our harbors, promising to return them and pay damages at the end of the war. All this we had a legal right to do. While these measures aided us greatly in getting our supplies and soldiers across, still Germany had sunk and was still sinking so many craft and our needs were so much greater than in peace times that we were in desperate straits. It takes time to build ships and we had allowed our shipyards to fall into disuse.

The next step was to call ships from our Great Lakes, from the Pacific, and from ocean lines elsewhere. It takes three times as long to make a trip from Australia to England as from America. A ship could therefore carry three cargoes from the United

OCEAN LINES BROKEN States to one from Australia. So the wheat was allowed to rot on the wharves of Australia while we cut ourselves short to send our own much needed wheat. The same was true of India and of Argentine. In fact the other ocean lines of commerce the world over were robbed of their ships in order to bridge the Atlantic with them. This shows us how nearly Germany succeeded in starving her enemies and forcing them to beg for peace by reckless use of her pirate U-boats.

As a final step, America set to work with great haste to build shipyards. All the yards we had were **BUILDING SHIPYARDS** working day and night. At favorable places along the Atlantic, on the Great Lakes, and on our Pacific coast great shipyards were rushed rapidly to completion. We built ships of steel, ships of concrete, ships even of wood.

The President called upon Charles M. Schwab, one of our great organizers, to take charge of this tremendous program. We had promised six million tons of shipping built in 1918, that is, ten big ships a week. For a time our prospects were very poor on account of strikes and labor troubles encouraged by spies and pro-Germans in our midst. There was a crying need for skilled ship-builders, carpenters and steel-workers and laborers. A big shipyard at Camden, New Jersey, promised after six months to be able to turn out complete a 10,000-ton steamship every twenty-four hours, if they could get the fuel, raw materials, and labor. Laborers were rushed to the shipyards until Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, which is the seat of the greatest steel works in the world, with housing room for 60,000 people, grew almost overnight to 200,000.

A great many parts of ships were built in machine shops scattered over the country. These parts were brought together at the shipyards and quickly put together. This reduced the amount of work to be done at the shipyards. The parts were rolling into the big yards in thousands of cars and went together perfectly and rapidly.

The ship Tuckahoe of 5,500 tons was launched in twenty-seven days, and completely equipped in ten **SHIP** days more. On the fortieth day from the **BUILDING** laying of her keel she sailed with her first cargo. This was an amazing record, but soon beaten. In August the Invincible, a 12,000-ton steamer, was launched at Alameda, California, twenty-four working days after the keel was laid. In building the Invincible 13,784 tons of steel were put in place and about 40,000 rivets driven daily. The Invincible was 457 feet 6 inches in length. Before the war the building of the Tuckahoe would have taken a year and the Invincible two years or more.

Everything now depended upon ships. There was no use sending troops to Europe unless they could be kept supplied. An army requires an enormous volume of materials, guns, airplanes, wagons, ammunition, food and stores of all kinds. Horses in particular presented a very great difficulty and an enormous number of horses had to be carried.

As all the Allied armies were drawing most of their food and materials from oversea their fighting **CORNER** power was limited by the number of ships. **TURNED** But the corner had been turned; the new tonnage constructed in July exceeded the month's sinkings by 280,000, and America was only well started.

CHAPTER XXIV

FOOD AND THE WAR

Most of the soldiers in the trenches were food producers before they went to war. Millions of other men had left food producing occupations to work in munition factories, and in the transportation of supplies, guns and munitions. For this reason, our European Allies had not produced anywhere near as much food as in times of peace. Before the war our Allies raised about forty per cent of their food and now they produced much less.

We had to think of France who had borne the brunt of the war because it had been fought on her soil. She had mobilized seven million men from a population of thirty-five million, and month after month held two-thirds of the Western Front, while whole districts behind the lines were absolutely deprived of bread.

French production of wheat fell from 350 million bushels before the war to 160 million bushels in 1917. France reduced the amount of wheat needed by one-fourth. She put her people on a ration of ten ounces of bread a day when they had been eating thirty. She even cut down her soldiers from twenty-five to twenty-one ounces of bread a day. France reduced her consumption of sugar a half, the oils and fats forty-eight per cent.

Wheat is the great food of the world. It is like gold, in demand everywhere. There is no country

WHEAT A that does not grow it, no civilized
WORLD FOOD nation that does not use it. There are nations in Europe whose ration is based on wheat. White bread forms only 39 per cent of the total diet in the United States; it forms 67 per cent of the diet in France.

Soldiers at the front had to be fed because no army can fight when hungry. So our Allies looked to the United States for several hundred million bushels of wheat. Under ordinary
ALLIES CAN circumstances we could spare only
NOT USE CORN eighty million bushels a year. But we had a surplus of five hundred million bushels of other cereals, mainly corn. Corn could not be sent to Europe because ground cornmeal will not stand the long voyage in salt air. European mills were built to grind wheat, not corn, and our Allies were so busy in the struggle they could not build mills for corn.

Australia had in the spring of 1918 a surplus of one hundred million bushels of wheat, to which was about to be added eighty millions of a new crop. Argentina had a surplus of a hundred and forty-five
WHEAT BOTS million bushels, and India had more
NO SHIPS than a hundred million bushels. With all this wheat in the world, with great quantities of it piled up on the wharves of Australia being eaten by weevils and rats, the warring nations of our Allies were crying for bread. The U-boats sank in two months of 1917 two per cent of the ships carrying wheat. There was a decrease of 70 per cent in the export of wheat from Argentina. The shipping lines of the world were broken, in order that lines

with America might remain. It became our duty to feed Europe.

There was only one solution of the problem. The people of the United States set about substituting other cereals for wheat in their diet in order to ship our wheat to Europe. Europe also needed meat and sugar and dairy products and our supply was short.

During the war many neutral countries aided the Allies in trying to save the millions of starving people in the regions Germany had conquered. The United States had sent Herbert C. Hoover to Belgium to see that the food supply sent by our country and the Allies reached the needy French and Belgians. When the United States took up arms Mr. Hoover was called home and made food administrator to look after the providing of food for us and our Allies.

In seven and a half months the American people, under Mr. Hoover's leadership, saved 32 million bushels which was shipped to the Allies. We were asked to save sugar but for a time failed to make a showing here. We did save a vast amount of meat. Our patriotic women learned to use food substitutes. They used corn instead of wheat, new varieties of fish instead of land products, and oil butter instead of dairy butter.

It was the self-sacrifice of the American people in matters of food and their determination to feed their hungry Allies, that prevented a German victory in these critical years.

CHAPTER XXV

OTHER WAR MEASURES

Another of the great war measures of our country was the taking over of the railroads. This was done in December, 1917, according to an Act of Congress. The railroads had reached their limit of pulling freight, and were not equal to the task of transporting our soldiers and the great amount of ammunition and freight that was necessary in time of war. The government ordered the railroads to give preference to the government shipments and this had tied them up.

The railroads needed more money to buy engines and cars, and they could not get this additional money. The real cause was that we had cramped **RAILROAD** the railroads. While their labor and **CRISIS** materials for upkeep had been costing more heavily, we had forbidden them to increase freight rates until their profits had fallen so low that people were afraid to buy their stocks and bonds. There was also a labor crisis facing the railroads. They had lost seventy thousand men to the army and navy, and this had impaired their work so that they had to transfer men from one point to another to keep affairs going.

In the winter of 1917 in the eastern parts of the country there were not enough engines to move the traffic; at the port of New York, alone, there were at one time one hundred and fifty vessels waiting

for bunker coal. The entire Atlantic coast was threatened with coal famine. The iron and steel plants were running at only one-half their capacity. Schools and churches were closing; the poor were dying in rooms of almost zero temperature.

President Wilson and Congress found it was absolutely necessary for the nation to take control of the railroads. The President, therefore, gave forth

McADOO RAIL SUPERVISION a proclamation ordering this done. William McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, was asked to assume control of the railroads as supervisor. McAdoo had proven very able as an organizer and seemed to be the best man in the Cabinet upon whom the President could call to perform the difficult task.

This transportation system consisted of over two hundred and sixty thousand miles of railroad track and an investment in railroad properties of sixteen billion dollars. On these lines were employed over one million railroad men.

On account of the fearful destruction of ships by submarines, ship owners had to charge high rates for shipping freight across the ocean. The govern-

UNCLE SAM TAKES OVER SHIPS ment was in desperate need of all ships that belonged to American owners for use to and from Europe. The government shipping board therefore took over in October, 1917, every American merchant ship that could carry twenty-five hundred tons or more.

It was promised that many of the ships would be immediately turned back to their owners to be operated by them, but the ships were to be at all times subject to the government's orders. This gave the government a chance to fix ocean freight rates be-

tween America and Europe both for itself and for private shippers.

The neutral countries in Europe had been furnishing Germany with supplies and to prevent this the Allies planned to put an embargo on exports to those neutral countries. No goods were shipped to Holland or Norway or Denmark or Switzerland unless we were absolutely certain that the goods would not be reshipped into Germany or that they would not take the place of other goods that had been shipped to Germany. By controlling the export of goods into these neutral countries, and sending only enough to serve their own needs, we prevented goods being sent to Germany.

In October, 1917, our government found itself in need of more money, so it called the Second Liberty Loan for three billion dollars, that is, three thousand million. The new bonds yield 4% interest while the rate on the First Liberty Loan was 3½%. The American people proved their loyalty by subscribing for more than the government asked.

Our country needed such vast sums of money to carry on the war that it could not get enough from bonds alone, so Congress planned to levy the Income Tax. Under this plan the poor man was to pay only a small percentage of his income, because he needed it to live, but the rich man paid a very high per cent. This was a new principle of taxation in our country. Before this time we had not been taxing one man at a higher rate than another. If the rich man paid more in former times than the poor man it was because the rich man had more property. The idea that some

people can be taxed 64% while others are taxed only 3% would not seem a fair deal. However, on the income basis we tax the rich man at a higher rate than the poor man because he is better able to pay.

Married people with an income less than \$2,000 pay no income tax. Those above \$2,000 must pay a small per cent. The very rich man may have to pay as much as 40% of his income or even more. We are told that a certain wealthy American has an income of \$50,000,000 a year and that he has to pay 64% of it or \$32,000,000 income tax.

The Third Liberty Loan, which was announced April 6, 1918, was even a greater success than the preceding ones. It was not only oversubscribed a billion dollars, making four billions loaned to victory **THIRD LIBERTY LOAN** instead of the three which the government called for, but this Third Loan was placed with small investors all over the country. Thousands upon thousands of small bonds were sold to the plain people. Seventeen million different individuals bought bonds. This ought to have convinced Germany that the people of America were not half-hearted about the war but were determined to "see it through." Americans, even of German descent, had become disgusted with the aristocratic ruling class in the Fatherland and were loyally devoted to the defeat of the Kaiser.

For three years and more the war had been in progress and the Allies had been unable to agree **DIVIDED COMMAND** upon who should be in supreme command. They were at a great disadvantage in having three armies under three different independent commanders. The Germans, having one supreme commander whose word was law, could use

their armies like a single machine. They did not have to wait until three separate governments and their commanders could be brought to agree upon the next move and give their consent to it.

In the Spring of 1918 our Secretary of War, Baker, went to Europe with the purpose of getting the Allies to agree to a single command. Great Britain stood out for a long time against this unity of plan because it was unpopular in England to have their men under the command of some other nation. But the English finally acceded to America's wishes as expressed by Secretary Baker, and the allied armies of English, French, Italians and

FOCH IN Americans were at last placed
SUPREME COMMAND under the single supreme command of General Ferdinand Foch, whom Marshal Joffre called the "greatest strategist in France."

From that time on the British, French, Italian and American troops were treated as a single army. General Pershing was still in command of our army, but he was subject to General Foch's orders in all matters of war. In order to more quickly give aid to our allies some of the American troops were placed among the French and British veterans to give them much needed aid and at the same time to more quickly round out our men's training.

One of our war weapons was the new Browning Automatic rifle. It is said to be the finest gun in the **BROWNING** world. We are making two types of **LIGHT RIFLE** this gun—the light rifle and the heavy machine gun, both using the same ammunition as the other rifles in the Allied armies.

The light rifle when loaded with twenty rounds weighs only fifteen pounds and can be fired in a

breath. The gunner swings it to his shoulder as easily as a single shot weapon. He can set it so as to pull the trigger for each of the twenty shots, or he can have the twenty shots go off at once. Twenty continuous shots in two and a half seconds make a fearful stream of lead.

This gun is air-cooled and has no "kick." It can be taken apart with so simple a tool as the rim of a cartridge and can be put back together in a very few minutes. Soldiers are trained to take their guns to pieces and put them together again with their eyes closed, so that they may be able to repair them, if necessary, in the dark trenches.

The Browning heavy machine gun is water cooled. It is fired from a tripod and is fed from a belt of **BROWNING** two hundred and fifty rounds of car-
HEAVY GUN tridges. In one test twenty thousand shots were fired in forty-eight minutes without a hitch. This gun weighs thirty-four and one-half pounds with the water jacket around the barrel filled. With these excellent guns our army was soon equipped.

CHAPTER XXVI

RUSSIAN AND ROUMANIAN PEACE

During February, 1918, the Russians and Germans were negotiating for peace at Brest Litovsk. But affairs did not go smoothly; Trotsky, the Russian Socialist leader, refused to sign the treaty on the basis of the German terms. However, he declared that Russia's warfare was at an end, and ordered the Russian army to be demobilized. No peace had been signed, but the Russian leaders seemed to think that since it takes two armies to make a war that Germany could not go on alone. So German armies soon set out toward Petrograd and there was nothing in their way.

Germany's plan was to break up Russia and thus destroy her power for the future. She therefore **DIVIDING RUSSIA** persuaded the Ukrainians of southern Russia to enter into separate peace negotiations with her. They did so and at length agreed on peace terms and signed a treaty.

The Bolsheviks of north Russia then turned on Ukraina and there was a bloody battle for the possession of Kiev. This was won by the Bolsheviks. Germany then announced that the Ukrainians had called upon her to help them against the North Russians. This was just the excuse she sought to make closer friends with Ukraina and drive a dividing line through Russia. So German troops went to the assistance of the Ukrainians.

Then Lenine and Trotsky yielded and announced that they had been forced to sign a peace on German terms. The terms of the treaty **RUSSIA** **MUTILATED** are amazing. Russia was mutilated. All that Peter the Great strove for and finally won for Russia, was given away in this treaty. The seaports on the Baltic and the Black Sea which were the outlets for Russian trade, were taken from her. Russia was thrown back three hundred years. She lost Poland, Finland, Esthonia, Lavonia, Courland and Lithouania. In losing the Baltic coast she was deprived of "that window upon the western world" which was created by Peter the Great.

The Germans had also succeeded in making a new state of Ukrainia, the south-western portion of Russia. This was done in order to divide the Russian Slavs into two parts, in the hope that these states might never rejoin and that they might always be jealous of each other. Thus the Great Russians of the north were separated from the Little Russians of Ukrainia on the Black Sea.

Poland was also taken from Russia and became dependent upon the pleasure of Germany and Austria. In losing Poland Russia lost her great **BUFFER STATES** industrial cities and their populations. Destitute of seaports and deprived of all her industrial regions, Russia was made an inland state. Thus the shackles were fastened upon her by Germany. Germany in order to destroy the unity of this nation of 180,000,000 people, did not think it wise to annex much Russian territory directly, but she created a number of buffer states which were to depend upon Germany for their existence. They were to be barriers against any attempts of Russia to strike Ger-

many later. Above all, her main purpose seems to have been to divide the Slavs, and to break them into two different nations as the Civil War threatened to do in the United States.

By means of this treaty Germany acquired all the Baltic ports of Russia. She did not do this directly, but through the buffer states which she created—Riga, Granou, Libau, and Reval,—all these Baltic ports, came under German domination and regulation. Then, too, German influence would control the paltry Baltic sea-gates of greater Russia. The railroads were to be reconstructed by Germans and doubtless operated for their benefit. All important decisions of these buffer states would be “made in Germany.”

The war had cost Germany untold billions. Her debt was tremendous. She had lost millions of her best men and she had lost for many years that high position in the world's commerce which was hers in 1914. She was trying to repair this tremendous loss by opening up trade relations with these lands conquered by her sword.

Roumania also finding it impossible to resist Germany longer, accepted the worst and made peace with the Central powers. She gave up **ROUMANIA** **GIVES UP** to Bulgaria the province of Dobrudja as far as the Danube; thus she lost her only seaport—Constanza. She promised also to evacuate at once all Austrian territory held by her troops. She accepted the boundary demanded by Austro-Hungary and promised to aid in transporting troops to Odessa. Roumania was still further forced to concede “economic measures,” which the Kaiser could stretch to cover all he wished. Thus the Central

powers got complete control of the Danube River throughout its navigable length.

The German troops soon came into possession of Odessa, the great port of the Russian wheat country.

BLACK SEA AND DANUBE Odessa had been the headquarters of the Russian Black Sea fleet. With control of the Black Sea the Germans secured excellent transportation from Odessa to the mouth of the Danube. As they also had control of that stream it was easy to distribute food from Russia by means of this Austro-German waterway.

The vast advantage of Germany and her Allies in these peace treaties was that they obtained possession of a tremendous extent of Russian territory, supplies of food and various kinds of military materials, including guns and munitions. Hundreds of thousands of German and Austrian prisoners of war in Russia were set free and these increased the man power of the armies of the Central Powers.

Whether Germany would be able to hold these lands that she had taken from Russia, seemed to depend at the last upon the fighting on the West front. It was thought she would not be permitted to hold them unless she could defeat England, France, Italy and the United States. If she were allowed to hold these lands with the complete control of the Baltic, with her troops at Odessa and Constanza, and with her control of Constantinople, her dream of world empire would be greatly furthered.

CHAPTER XXVII

A HALF-YEAR OF GERMAN VICTORY (1918)

THE BATTLE FOR PARIS

The most desperate and bloody battle in history began with the great German offensive in France on **BATTLE** March 21, 1918. The Germans were **OF PICARDY** determined by a swift and powerful blow to break the Allied line, smash the British army, and win the war before the full force of America could be brought into action. No less than four million men were engaged in deadly combat on the front of one hundred and fifty miles.

The Germans made their first drive on the Allied line in the province of Picardy in France. Having gathered a great number of men and guns from the other fronts, especially from Russia, they were relying upon the power of the artillery to paralyze the Allied line and then attack with millions of infantry and win quickly.

After a terrible pounding with the big guns which reached many miles back of the Allied lines, the infantry rushed forward. When the first ranks of soldiers were shot down or checked, supporting troops advanced over the bodies of the dead and wounded. When these were halted or slaughtered, another wave came and then another. The German commanders were ruthless in the sacrifice of life in the hope of overwhelming the British by the sheer weight of numbers.

Everywhere the British were outnumbered because they did not know where the main part of **ALLIES** attack was to be made. But they **OUTNUMBERED** kept their reserves ready for the specific part of the combat and brought them up as quickly as possible. In one place nine German divisions were hurled against three British divisions. At another part of the line there were eight against two. The Germans continued to advance in this manner and never faltered until they were shattered by the machine gun fire.

However, the British were not strong enough to hold all the old positions against a tide of this sort. In fact they had planned to give ground, but as they did so to make the Germans pay a fearful price.

The English served their guns with deadly effect but as attack followed attack and one column of Germans followed another column the British losses increased as the hours passed. Finally the British were ordered in certain parts of the line to fall back. This they did, protected by heroic rear-guard action from one position to another.

The British and French were still under separate commanders. This made a weak point where their **ALLIED** armies joined because it was under **LINE BREAKS** two generals, neither of whom could act without consulting the other. General Gough with the Fifth British army was holding the part of the front next to the French.

At this weak point the Germans struck like a thunderbolt on the second day with the determination to drive a wedge between the British and

French and capture Amiens, which was an important distributing point for the Allied line.

Under cover of the mist and fog which prevented sight of more than thirty yards the Germans had come forward and captured the first line almost before an alarm could be given and before reinforcements could be brought up. They broke through the British line and pushed rapidly forward. This forced the British and French armies to fall back on a wide front and to give up miles and miles of French territory. These were anxious hours for the Allies.

Could the gap be filled in time to escape a terrible disaster? General Carey of the British army determined to close up this gap between the British and French. He organized a scratch force by telephone, messenger and flag signals. He gathered together laborers, raw recruits, engineers and everybody in reach. Among them were Americans and Canadians who gloried in this uneven fight. With great courage and sheer grit these men lay in their shallow trenches firing almost point blank at the great forces of Germans. They checked them and held them nearly six days until the gap was closed by reinforcements coming up. This most magnificent fighting really saved the British army from a terrible collapse.

There never has been a more glorious spirit shown by British troops along the whole line. Without rest they fought for six days and nights after the first storm of shell and gas, until their beards had grown long and their faces haggard and worn by lack of sleep; and their clothing had become torn on wires and covered with mud. Had it not been

for General Carey and his men the Germans would have broken the line completely. However, they failed in their attempt notwithstanding the fact that they had captured a great deal of ground and many men. They had driven the British and French a distance of thirty-five miles on a front of sixty miles but they failed to break the line or to take Amiens.

Paris had been bombarded from a distance of seventy miles by huge guns; some lives were lost but the splendid French spirit was unbroken.

Then the Germans sought to annihilate the British army in Flanders by breaking through to the English Channel. This great drive **AIM FOR CHANNEL PORTS** was started on April 19th and like the other attacks met with a fearful loss of life. The Germans captured a number of precious British positions among which were Messines Ridge and Mt. Kemmel, but they were mowed down by the hundreds of thousands.

These were anxious days for the British for their armies had been greatly weakened by severe losses and had been driven back dangerously near to the coast. General Haig finally gave out the word that his men were fighting with their backs to the wall and that they must not give any more ground. The British line had taken its stand in strong positions among the hills and would not budge further.

It is said that the Germans lost 500,000 men and they were so stunned by these losses that they were inactive for several weeks. Meantime they reformed their army for a fresh attack for they meant to win with hammer blows before America could swing a million men into line. The Germans

claimed that they captured 100,000 prisoners and 750 guns, but the battle fields were paved with German dead. It may be that the Allied losses, in dead, wounded and prisoners, were not far below those of the enemy.

In the midst of this terrible fighting the Allies had taken an important step. They had consented to have all their armies placed under one head. General Ferdinand Foch was made supreme commander of the armies of France, England, Italy and the United States. This was a long step toward final victory.

On May 27 the Germans struck in a new and unexpected direction on the Aisne River. They **THIRD BATTLE OF THE AISNE** stormed a line of thirty miles which was the strongest section of the Allied line for a long distance. The French, counting upon the high hilly ground and the rivers to help them hold the enemy, had only four divisions here, although this position covered the direct road to Paris.

The Germans had gathered at this point in great strength at night in order to escape observation and thus surprise the French. After a brief bombardment of great intensity which reached far back of the line and disturbed communications, the Germans made a mad rush with overwhelming numbers and swept the French back off the Aisne heights. They drove the French troops across two rivers so rapidly that they failed to make a stand at either place, and thus the road to Paris was open. The four French divisions were almost entirely destroyed and the Germans surged on toward the Marne River. The line was broken for a distance

of thirty miles and for several days there were no troops whatever that were facing the advancing enemy.

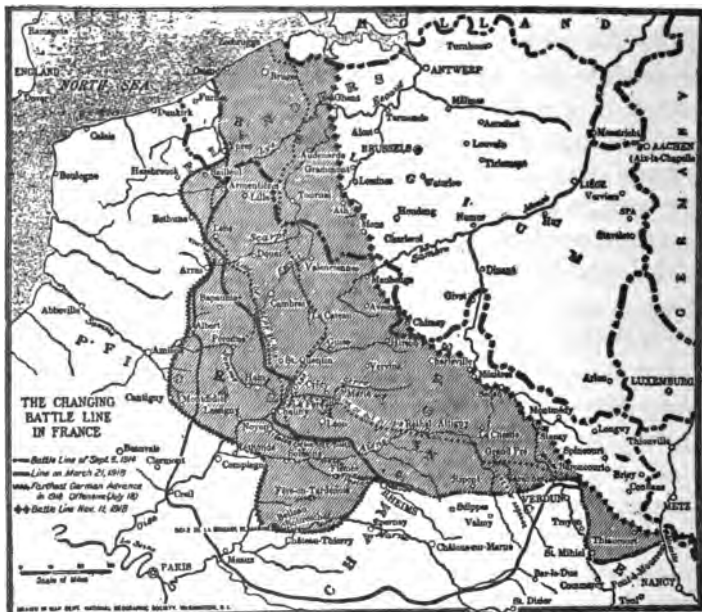
The Germans took Soissons and pushed on for thirty miles toward Paris until they reached the Marne River, where they came in contact with the French reserves and were checked for they had far outrun their artillery.

It was here at Chateau Thierry that General Foch sent in the American marines to stop the Germans and block the main road. The American boys fought splendidly and held the best troops of Germany. Thus the German drive was at last halted. This effort had been a shining success for the Germans for they had taken much territory with small losses. The Allied line had failed to hold. The former idea that an entrenched line could not be broken was proven untrue. More open-field fighting was in prospect.

Again on June 9 the Germans struck and this time with little delay for a different road leading to Paris. **BATTLE FOR CAMPIEGNE** On this road was the city of Campiegne, twelve miles away, which was their first aim. There was no surprise here for the French were ready for them. On the first day the Germans did advance several miles at one point but at the cost of enormous losses. On the second day the French counter attacked with great power and slowed down the German progress. But the Germans, despite terrible losses, fought on; and the French sold them a small amount of territory for enormous prices in killed and wounded. The enemy used more than 80,000 men and being unable to stand such losses the drive was brought to a dead

halt in defeat. They had gone forward six or seven miles at an awful cost and failed to get anything worth while.

In spite of their sacrifice of a million men in the four drives the Germans, after a few weeks' preparation, set out on a fifth. **GERMANY'S LAST DRIVE** believing that Foch had no reserves, ordered the Crown Prince to strike along the entire south side of the salient from Rheims to the Marne. He aimed to capture Rheims and the railway junction at Epernay and force the French to retire on a wide front.



Marshal Foch knew that the Germans had set the national French holiday, July 14, for their drive, believing that the French would be occupied with

their celebration. He also knew the hour that was set for the attack. So he arranged that the Americans and French should strike just five minutes before this hour. It was then too late for the Germans to change their plans and they were forced to go forward under a terrific bombardment of the German lines.

Along the whole side of the salient the Crown Prince came against a stone wall of defense. The Allies only permitted him to extend the tip of his pocket across the Marne in a dangerous position east of Chateau Thierry. The French policy was, when the enemy attacked, to give ground, taking **THROWN BACK** heavy toll, and the American troops **BY YANKS** were ordered to fall back with the French. But the American commander sent a protest to the French officer, saying: "We have been told to yield ground, but the American flag never retreats. We propose to counter-attack at once." This the Americans proceeded to do, and with tremendous power forced that section of the German army back across the Marne. Everywhere the enemy was balked.

Thus a turn of fortune had come at last. It was the end of German victory and German hopes, for the great drive toward Paris had failed.

AUSTRIAN DEFEAT ON THE PIAVE

On June 15 the Austrian armies, a million strong, began a powerful drive against the Italians on the Piave. They were said to have seven thousand cannon. To urge on the Austrians they were promised by their emperor good food and much spoils if they won.

The Italians had learned from deserters and captives the exact time the Austrians were to strike. So just as the Austrian batteries opened to clear the way for the infantry, the Italians also began a terrific counter bombardment. So tremendous was the double cannonade that it wakened people from their sleep thirty miles away. The unexpected reply by the Italians frustrated the Austrians but they continued the bombardment for four hours, using shells of all sizes as well as gas and special smoke shells.

The Austrians blinded the Italian artillery and airplanes by great quantities of smoke shells, covering the Italian trenches along the river with a dense black fog. Under cover of this patrols crossed the river in boats, pulling pontoons after them. Bridges were constructed on the pontoons and reinforcements rapidly crossed and drove the Italians back a few miles.

Suddenly the Piave rose to flood tide and washed away most of the bridges, leaving the army without proper contact with their base and without food and supplies. Moreover, their heavy cannon could not get to them. The Italians by air craft and long range fire made the other bridges unsafe and launched heavy counter attacks, forcing the Austrians back to the river bank. They mowed them down unmercifully as they struggled to get back across the river. At last the Austrians got back to where they had started. The drive was a complete failure. They lost above 200,000 men while the Italian losses were far below. This splendid victory gave new life to the brave armies of Italy, and brought deep gloom and food riots to Austria.

CHAPTER XXVIII

AMERICA ON THE FIRING LINE

The German armies had moved forward in one drive after the other in the Spring of 1918 in an effort to cut the Allied armies in two and to take Paris. Each drive brought them nearer to victory. Deep gloom settled over England and France. Many of the ablest men of these nations confided privately to their friends their fears. They said that the Germans had time for four more attacks before winter could put a stop to the year's campaign. With this great advantage they would doubtless succeed in winning for Germany either the **ALLIES** channel ports or Paris, and probably **INGLOOM** both; and the Allied armies could not stop them. All northern France would be trampled down. One eminent Englishman thought it would be necessary to withdraw the British army from France and use it for defense at home till the end of the war.

At that time England and France had little hope for immediate and effective aid from America. Although America had promised troops in 1918, they thought that no matter how sincere our intentions nor how deep our devotion that we could not accomplish a miracle. They said it was utterly impossible for a country that had not a great standing army **AMERICA** to become an effective ally until after **UNTRAINED** a long period of training. They believed an untrained soldier was worse upon the

battle-field than no soldier at all, and none of America's soldiers were trained. Britons and French, then, must rely upon their own strength and they, unaided, could not hope to hold the enemy. So there was deep dejection in England and France.

However, the leaders urged the Allied countries to gather all their strength and grit and hang on till winter, which was five months away, and to prepare for four or five more years of war. There was no thought of quitting, but their only hope of success was to hold on till 1919, when, perhaps, America would be ready to lend some aid. If such was the feeling in England and France, we can scarcely imagine the confidence and high spirits in Germany. They were certain that victory was in sight.

The German leaders were wont to ridicule the idea of American aid to the Allies. They pointed to our lack of military training while they had been training their men for forty years. They said we could not provide officers for a great army and that Americans were money-makers and would not fight. At any rate, their submarines would prevent our troops from crossing.

On June 26 was fought the Battle of Cantigny, one of the most decisive of the war. It was here that **BATTLE OF** the "untrained" American soldier stood **CANTIGNY** forth and proved to the world that, training or no training, he was the best soldier alive. Here American troops were thrown against the best Prussian soldiers, and, although they outnumbered the Yanks almost two to one, the Prussians were driven back in confusion.

The moment this news was received and understood in England and France, the whole aspect was

changed, wonderfully changed. They said: "If this is the American soldier and if the American soldier is coming to France in sufficient numbers there is hope." In midsummer President Wilson astonished the world by announcing that there were a million Yanks in France. Then the French and British said: "If we have a million Americans in France and they can fight like these men at Cantigny, we have won."

Then came the battle at Chateau Thierry, where the Germans again felt the quality of the American soldier. When the Germans were driven back they brought forward their best regiments to give the American marines a lesson. The "crack" German troops rushed forward to recover the lost ground. They were mowed down by the fire of the marines. The Prussians attacked repeatedly, but always with the same results. They failed to get nearer than 400 yards to the American lines. In this battle there were 8,000 Yanks, of whom 6,000 fell dead or wounded, and yet they fought on till victory was theirs. Only the bravest of soldiers will hold ground **CHATEAU THIERRY** under such terrible losses, but the marines not only stood but threw back the victorious German masses. It was this superb valor that aroused the weary spirits of the Allied soldiers and knocked the props from under German hopes.

Then came the wonderful record of victories that the world will never forget—Vaux, Vesle and Belleau Woods, where the Americans with undaunted courage fought the Prussian Guards, the very pick of all the German army, and drove them, inch by inch, through a jungle that covered a long hill and cleared the woods of Germans.

The London Post of November 6, said: "These troops, but newly trained, inheriting no long military tradition and moulded by no iron-bound system, have faced and overcome the pick of the German legions. The cost, no doubt, has been heavy, but the result has been amazing. It is not too much to say that the most confident expectations have been surpassed. The rapidity and thoroughness with which Pershing's men have adapted themselves to the highly specialized conditions of modern warfare have been a revelation."

We have to concede that the Germans are great organizers, but they were to learn some lessons **AMERICAN ORGANIZATION** from the Americans. Our business men are used to doing things on a large scale. The organization that America put into use was the most wonderful ever seen. In Europe it began in two or three ports of France and soon a marvelous system of docks, warehouses, railroad switches and railroads were in service. From the tidewater on the French coast right up to the battle line this wonderful machinery transported troops, munitions and supplies with amazing speed and regularity.

This great system of team work began in our home country and reached to the battle line of the west front. It was this that enabled the Allied armies to win the war. Europe had never seen such organization, Germany had nothing to match it. With this machinery behind the lines America's invincible troops in constantly growing numbers helped the Allied armies forward to speedy victory.

CHAPTER XXIX

THE TANK

The armored tractor or "tank" was one of the leading inventions of the war. In the later offensive fighting it practically held first place because of the ease with which these giant machines crushed their way through barbed wire entanglements, broke up machine-gun nests and led the infantry through the enemy lines. Tanks must not be confused with the armored cars which were in use two years before the tank appeared.

It was the Belgians who first used automobiles to carry machine-guns into action against the German **ARMORED CARS** cavalry. They provided protecting armor for some of the cars, but others went into action without armor. It was not long, however, before cars were designed for war and armored with light steel plating and the machine guns mounted in armored revolving turrets. Such cars were very effective, but they could be used only on roads and in the open country where the way was smooth.

After the first great battle of the Marne the German army dug in and made a front of deep **ARMIES IN DEADLOCK** trenches protected by barbed wire. The armored car was then no longer useful in an offensive move. Moreover, the long battle lines were soon plowed up by high explosives so that everything on wheels was useless. For months the armies were deadlocked because of the deep trenches, the broad belts of barbed wire and the

numerous machine gun nests. Many came to believe that neither army could break through the other's defenses, for it required a terrible barrage to cut away the opposing barbed wire entanglements so that the infantry could go forward, and this same barrage gave the enemy ample time to bring up machine guns and reinforcements to stop the break.

What was needed was some sort of a movable fort that could cross No Man's Land over trenches, barbed wire and the uneven shell-torn paths. This armored fort must be able to move over a rough section straight to its objective. It had to be made of steel in order to be bullet-proof against machine guns and rifles, so it would have to weigh many tons. To carry such a weight it must have a broad contact with the ground so that it could get a firm grip.

Colonel Swinton, the British inventor of the tank, met and solved all these problems. He found ready **A LAND DREADNAUGHT** at hand the American farm tractor with its endless caterpillar belt, which was an ideal foundation upon which to build his armored fort. For protection against machine gun bullets, the engine, controls, the guns and the crew were entirely enclosed with one-fourth-inch steel plates of special quality, which would ward off both machine gun and shrapnel fire. It could withstand a glancing blow from the lighter field artillery of the enemy. They were driven by a motor of 105 horsepower. One of the Allied tanks was hit seven times by German 77's, but in spite of this pounding it accomplished its task and limped back to its base.

To enable the tank to climb out of shell holes the forward face was carried up from the ground at a steep angle so as to catch the slope of the shell hole

or trench with a good grip. The tank was made long enough to span an ordinary trench. They not only crossed trenches with ease but flattened and ironed out all the barbed wire fences. The first British tanks were armed with two six-pounder, rapid fire guns to go against the concrete pill-boxes of the enemy where they did great execution.

Great pains were taken to keep the secret from the enemy until they were ready to attack with them.

THE So when these steel forts were shipped to
TANK France they were marked "tanks" for camouflage; but the British "Tommy" liked the name "tanks," and the name still holds. From the first these monsters were a great success, for they broke the line with great surprise and struck terror to the Germans who retreated before them. The Germans at once began to build similar machines for their army.

The British and French rapidly improved their tanks. The first ones were too slow and so large that they were easily hit and put out of action by the heavy field guns of the enemy. The British soon brought forth the "Whippet" and the French the "Mosquito," which were small and swift and able to turn in a short space. The speed prevented the enemy's larger guns from getting exact range. They moved about twelve miles an hour and were camouflaged so as to be almost invisible. They advanced with the cavalry far ahead of the infantry.

The great obstacle for the tanks was the masonry work of the Hindenburg line, which often
WALLS rose sharply several feet above the level
AND TRAPS of the ground. Then, too, the Germans had built stone walls, reinforced with bars of steel,

across roads and streets forming part of their line. One road had four of these walls in half a mile. Our men blasted them away after the troops had climbed over them.

Then there were the traps which the Germans had built. They had hollowed huge holes in the roads and covered them neatly with a few inches of surfacing. Tanks running over them simply sank out of sight. Our soldiers had rather good luck avoiding these, and when a tank fell into one, two big trucks pulled it out.

America was keeping quiet about her tanks until a huge fleet of them should be ready. We were allowed to know that some of them weighed 45 tons and were driven by steam. American fleets of tanks would have made a formidable showing if the war had lasted until 1919. It was the power of this new weapon that broke German's strongly fortified lines in the last months of the conflict and forced a speedy end of the war.

CHAPTER XXX

GERMAN RETREAT TO THE HINDENBURG LINE

On Wednesday, July 17, 1918, the German army came nearest to ultimate victory. It was the third day of their Gettysburg, their nearest approach to Paris and to world domination. But the German troops were wearied with hard fighting and discouraged by their heavy losses and slight success. Moreover, they were in a long, dangerous salient. Their reserves were rapidly exhausted while those of Foch **AMERICA** were still in waiting, fresh and eager. **IN LINE** America was also in the battle line with many hundred thousand of the finest soldiers in the world. Other thousands of Yanks were in training behind the lines with 250,000 American troops arriving every month. Ludendorff had risked all to conquer France and England before America could get into the battle line and had failed. The crisis had come, the moment for which Foch had been waiting, the hour for the Allies to strike.

On a front of about twenty-five miles from Chateau Thierry to the Aisne, Foch launched a fresh American and French army which had been gathered and concealed in the woods. Before night the American troops, led by tanks, reported the capture of a dozen villages, and the French had gained the hills above Soissons, dominating the town with their guns and threatening the roads by which the Germans fed and munitioned their troops in the long

salient, or pocket. Soon Allied troops had captured 20,000 German prisoners and 400 guns.

The tables were completely turned and all the German troops in the pocket were in peril. The **TABLES ARE TURNED** Germans had either to stop this thrust of the French and Americans at the base of the salient or retire and abandon all the territory they had gained to the Marne River. They failed to check the Allied thrust and soon the French artillery was sweeping their only railroad. The Germans were at last outnumbered, outgunned and out-generaled. Then the great German retreat began which was to end only when the enemy begged the Allies for peace.

The retreat was slow, but the Marne salient was soon wiped out. By hard fighting the Germans kept the neck of the bottle open until their army escaped capture, but to do this Ludendorff had to use precious reserve troops and munitions. He lost 35,000 prisoners and 700 guns, besides acres of ground piled high with German shells.

The worst of all for the Germans was that they lost the initiative. Now the question became not **ENEMY GUESSING** "Where will the Germans strike next?" but "Where will Foch strike next?" The enemy must now retreat from a number of weak pockets or salients in the long line to save their army and reorganize their forces for a new offensive. To do this Ludendorff needed time which Foch was careful not to grant him.

The Germans were forced not only to abandon weak positions but to shorten their lines, for they had used up their man power in a most terrible and reckless manner in the four spring drives. Foch

already had more men in reserve and the regular coming of the Americans made him stronger every day. So whenever Ludendorff tried to shift his **WEAK POCKETS** troops from one point to another to **DRIVEN IN** strengthen a position or whenever he attempted to retreat to shorten his line, the Allies caught him in the act and struck hard at that weak point, forcing them to return to the line or suffer it to be cut in two.

Thus, instead of allowing them to retreat rapidly and in good order, Foch compelled them to stand and be forced back slowly and painfully with immense losses. This was his plan for exhausting the enemy. It explains the series of attacks along the 250-mile front week after week until the Germans were reeling with their losses, and greatly disheartened. While the enemy was striving to catch his breath after one attack the Allies were driving in a new place. It was also Foch's scheme to inflict upon the Germans a great number of local defeats which would serve to weaken rapidly the German spirits and morale.

Before Ludendorff could recover from the defeat at the Marne Foch threw Rawlinson's British army **ALLIES CRUSH** against the north side of the Somme **WEAK POCKETS** pocket on August 8. Instead of artillery preparation the British used tanks to break the line which was a complete surprise. This brilliant victory for the Allies cost the Germans 35,000 prisoners and 750 guns.

Right upon this success Foch sent General Mangin's French army against another poorly guarded point while General Byng's Third British army struck between Arras and Albert on the other side

of the salient. Mangin bagged 20,000 prisoners and Byng 30,000, and a vast store of materials. Then before Ludendorff could recover Foch sent General Horne with a British army against a weak spot east of Arras. Horne took 20,000 prisoners and a great amount of war materials. He broke through the fortified line and entered ground held by the Germans since 1914. All these victories from Rawlinson's drive to Horne's success took place within four weeks with a total of 115,000 German prisoners, making in all 150,000 men and 2,500 guns taken since July 18. Two thousand square miles of French territory had also been liberated.

Foch assigned to the First American army under Pershing the task of cutting off the St. Mihiel **YANKS AT** salient. If the Americans could advance **ST. MIHIEL** behind the base of the salient across the mouth of the pocket and do so with great promptness the troops in the pocket would be caught.

General Pershing's offensive had been prepared with consummate skill with vast resources of men and material. His artillery preparation is said to have been the most scientifically concentrated on record. The army of tanks which opened the way for the infantry, and later for the cavalry were operated according to tactics long used in practice but never before in actual warfare.

The American artillery opened fire before day-break September 12, treating the Germans to a brief but terrible bombardment and then the Yanks advanced on both sides of the salient using 1,000 tanks. So rapid was the thrust that by the next morning the two American forces had met and the salient ceased to exist.

In a week Pershing had recovered an area of nearly 200 square miles. His army now menaced the Briey basin on the north which provided the Germans with 80 per cent of their steel and the forts of Metz on the east. He had released the Verdun-Toul-Nancy railway and was less than fifteen miles from the great German trunk line which runs from Metz to Mezieres. He had captured more than 20,000 prisoners and over 100 guns. The American success was hailed with delirious joy throughout France and produced a wonderful effect in all countries.

As the Germans retreated after each defeat they fell back upon their supply bases and shortened their lines and thus secured a tremendous advantage, for the Allies at the same time kept getting farther from their base of supplies and into a country of broken roads and bridges. The Allied troops in pursuit soon outran their artillery and, lacking the support of their own guns, were often checked by the artillery and machine guns of the enemy. Thus, there was hard fighting all the way through the numerous fortified lines.

The fighting of August and early September had pushed Ludendorff back to the Hindenburg Line, **GERMAN PLANS** that powerful system of defenses which had been developed during the three years of the war and which, except for the Second Battle of Cambrai, had never been seriously broken at any point. Here the Germans meant to stand and hold out until winter should put an end to the campaign. Then perhaps Germany could convince the Allies that a military decision was impossible and peace could be made, leaving Germany in possession of part of her loot. All this depended upon the Ger-

man's holding the Hindenburg Line. But Foch was determined to smash this line and convince the enemy that no line that they could fortify would long withstand the new Allied battle tactics with the fleet of tanks for surprise attacks.

CHAPTER XXXI

GERMANY'S ALLIES COLLAPSE

The Allied armies in the Balkans began a vigorous offensive against Bulgaria on September 16, 1918. The British and Greek troops **SURRENDER** from the base at Saloniki struck at the enemy on the right near Lake Doiran, while the



MAP OF BALKAN FRONT SHOWING BATTLELINE AT TIME OF BULGARIA'S SURRENDER

Serbs and French shattered the Bulgar center. Meanwhile a large Italian army was dealing heavy blows at the left where the enemy's line extended west into Albania. In a week the British and Greeks had taken Doiran while the French and Serbs had captured Prilep, and by pushing rapidly up the Vardar valley had cut off the First Bulgarian army which was west of the river.

The British and Greeks invaded Bulgaria and captured their fortress, Strumnitza, which opened

the way for the Allies to the gates of Sofia itself. By September 29, the Bulgars were burning their stores at the important base of Uskub, which the Serbs and French entered the next day.

King Ferdinand, of Bulgaria, made a desperate appeal to Germany for aid, but none came, for Germany had troubles of her own on the west front. Bulgaria had come to the end of her resources and nothing remained for her but surrender. The armistice, which amounted to complete surrender, was signed September 29, 1918.

King Ferdinand gave up his throne. Serbian troops occupied Nish and cut the Berlin-Bagdad railroad between Turkey and Germany. Roumania was now free to rejoin the Allies and, had the war continued, she would doubtless have taken up arms again. The Serbs soon re-entered their capital at Belgrade and the enemy disappeared north of the Danube. Serbia was redeemed and Germany cut off from her allies. The Bagdad railway scheme and the Mittel-Europa were shattered.

The capture of Jerusalem in the winter of 1917-1918 was an opening wedge against the Turks, but **TURKEY'S** General Allenby, of England, had to wait **DEFEAT** for the right weather conditions before proceeding farther into that hot desert country. While waiting, the British army completed the railway which now connects Jerusalem and Cairo. They brought water from a distant source by pipe line into Jerusalem and relieved the water carriers of that city. They also made other plans carefully and gathered men and munitions for the next blow.

When ready to strike Allenby was facing the Turks about thirty miles north of Jerusalem, on a

line extending from the Mediterranean to the Jordan. General Allenby's new offensive began September 18. He deceived the Turks by pretending to strike on their right wing and center, while he had really massed his troops for a great blow on the left wing along the coast where the Allied fleet could give aid. The Turkish line broke on this left wing and through the gap Allenby sent his cavalry and camel corps with astonishing success. They pushed north, then east, through Nazareth, completely sur-



SCENE OF BRITISH SUCCESSES IN PALESTINE, SYRIA, AND MESOPOTAMIA

rounding the Turkish army and cutting the Damascus railroad which was the single line of supply and escape for the enemy.

The British took 75,000 prisoners and 700 guns and all the equipment of the Turks. Only 20,000 escaped. Damascus, the capital of Syria, was taken October 1, and the way was open to Aleppo, the main base of the Turks in Asia Minor.

Aleppo was soon taken in a rapid push to the northward and the Bagdad railway cut, leaving the

Turks with no communication with Constantinople. Thus the fate of all Mesopotamia as well as Palestine and Syria was decided in one battle, and the power of the Turks was gone. Turkey at once sued for peace and surrendered. This opened the Dardanelles and the way was clear into the Black Sea to Roumania, Russia and to the mouth of the Danube river. The Allied fleet, having passed the Dardanelles, arrived at Constantinople November 13.

In the third week of October the Italian armies struck a blow at the Austrians along the whole line **AUSTRIAN** from the Alps to the sea. The entire **COLLAPSE** Italian military force was used, aided by two British and one French division. For a few days the enemy fought bravely, but at the end of that time collapsed. The Austrian hordes became great mobs of soldiers fleeing eastward. The Italians captured 400,000 prisoners, 7,000 cannon and 250,000 horses, the greatest booty that ever fell to a victorious army. Austria surrendered here on the battlefield.

All that Italy had lost was thus quickly regained. Both Trieste and Trent soon welcomed the Italian soldiers, the passes in the Alps were retaken and the Italian ships occupied the Adriatic ports.

Austria was out of the fighting. Her empire was falling to pieces and Emperor Charles had laid down his crown. Three great battles occurring within the space of two months had accomplished the downfall of Bulgaria, Turkey and Austria, and Germany was left to fight alone.

CHAPTER XXXII

BREAKING THE HINDENBURG LINE

Marshal Foch then decided on a general attack along the entire Hindenburg front. General Pershing was sent with the First American Army, of 750,000 men to take the Argonne forest, the most difficult portion of the whole line. It protected Metz, which was the pivot on which the entire German army would swing back to save itself. To clear the Argonne forest and reach the plain beyond would open the way for an advance toward Sedan and the German frontier. An advance in this sector menaced the only transportation lines by which the Germans could withdraw, except through Belgium. The supreme importance of protecting these lines was apparent to the German command. So the Prussian Guards and the flower of the army were stationed here in defense, with instructions to resist to the death.

The Argonne forest is a long chain of hills running north and south, covered with a dense growth **ARGONNE** of trees and underbrush in which it was **FOREST** difficult to advance. In this rough wooded region there were mazes of barbed wire, many miles deep, nailed to trees and reaching sometimes ten feet high, running in every direction. There were in addition many lines of trenches and concrete gun positions, for Germany, in the four years, had fortified this forest to the last degree of military skill. They had fine roads, both rail and motor, connecting

the forest with their rear positions and bases. The region was too rough for the use of tanks and all depended on the sheer pluck and skill of our gallant men.

The Americans knew what confronted them. They realized that this was an enterprise at which other armies had balked for four years. They knew that here was to be fought a conflict to rank with the first Battle of the Marne and with Verdun; and they knew that on our troops depended the fate of the great attack on the rest of the Hindenburg front. A victory here would soon bring Germany to her knees.

It was daybreak of September 26, when the Americans went in. Using nine divisions for the preliminary attack and with vigorous artillery support, they advanced five miles the first day. But the enemy was not wholly taken by surprise. The second day Ludendorff threw into the line five counter attack divisions which he held in close reserve. They were his best troops, but they failed not only to push the Americans back, but they failed to check the gradual advance of our men over the difficult terrain. By the end of the second day they had taken a dozen towns and many thousand prisoners. On the third day the Americans advanced two miles more.

The fighting during the next four days was furious. The Germans resisted to the death and the battle line swayed to and fro in the Argonne forest, yet each day ended with some slight gains for the Americans. On October 2 General Pershing reported that within the week the Americans had taken 120 guns of all calibers, 750 trench mortars, 300

machine guns, 100 tank guns and thousands of artillery shells and hundreds of thousands of rounds of small arms munitions.

It was bitter fighting in the woods, brush and ravines, for the region was perfectly registered and **AMERICAN RESERVES** plotted by the enemy and his guns, little and big, could be used with the greatest efficiency. The original nine American divisions in some cases were kept in the lines over three consecutive weeks. The American reserves were then thrown in until every division not engaged on another part of the line was put into action. Seven of these divisions that drove their way through this hard action had never before been in an active sector while green troops, fresh from home, were poured in as replacements.

The enemy was slowly pushed back from his strongest and most vital positions through one defense system after the other. Ludendorff used his finest selected troops which he withdrew in many instances from other portions of the line in an effort to hold. By magnificent fighting and a courage that never flagged our men gradually conquered this difficult forest region and cleared it of Germans.

On October 16 the Americans occupied the important strategic point of Grand Pre on the northern **AMERICAN** bank of the Aire at the vertex of the **SUCCESS** Argonne forest. The first phase of the action ended October 31. During these weeks the American gains were not large, measured in miles, but they compelled the enemy to sacrifice a large number of divisions by slowly exhausting them and thus Germany was unable to parry the hammering

they were receiving at other points on the west front from the British and French.

Meanwhile, on September 28, Foch's forces had become active at the other end of the long line. While the British fleet bombarded the coastal defenses and points of communication from Nieuport to Zeebrugge on the North Sea, the Belgian Army under King Albert, and the Second British Army under General Plumer, went over the German lines on a ten-mile front north of Ypres.

They swept the Germans out of all the famous high fighting ground of the Ypres salient and down **LINE BREAKS** into the Flanders plain below. This **IN BELGIUM** put the Germans in all the Lille region and also along the Belgian coast in a perilous position. Ludendorff was at once compelled to send a large portion of his remaining reserves to this northern line. They arrived at last and slowed down the British-Belgian drive; but here, too, the Allies kept pushing hard while the enemy slowly yielded.

With the German reserves well occupied on the far ends of the line, Foch was now ready for the **BREAKING** master stroke which was aimed at the **THE CENTER** center. On October 8 he threw three great British armies under Horne, Byng and Rawlinson, squarely against the Hindenburg Line near Cambrai. The line at this point was fortified a dozen miles deep, but the reward was worth the effort. If the line could be broken a great part of France would be set free and the Germans would be compelled to retreat on a wide front and give up the Belgian coast.

On Tuesday the British armies made a dent in the line. This was the first day of the drive. On Wed-

nesday the wedge had sunk more deeply and was widening. Thursday the British were victorious. The famous Hindenburg Line was broken and Cambrai was taken. On Friday the British were advancing in the open country, having swept forward fourteen miles. The break was complete and there was no other line of defense so formidable for the Allies to attack. This was a brilliant British victory, aided by the splendid strategy of Foch and the continual push of the French and Americans who held the German reserves at the ends of the line.

On October 16, the day Pershing took Grand Pre, the great retreat of the Germans from Western Belgium began under the ever increasing pressure of the Allies.

CHAPTER XXXIII

GERMANY CONQUERED

When the Hindenburg Line was broken the Germans gave up Zeebrugge, Ostend, Lille, Cambrai, **GERMANY'S** St. Quentin and Laon and fell back to **LAST STAND** a line from Ghent to Valenciennes and Sedan. This line was naturally strong for it had along most of its length a water barrier of rivers and canals which was a check to the use of the tanks. The line had also been fortified in four years of occupation. From Valenciennes eastward it protected the Maubeuge-Mezieres-Metz railroad which ran along behind the battle front and afforded the only means of supply and escape through Alsace-Lorraine. If this line were cut Germany's hosts would as a whole be compelled to retire through Liege which would be impossible because of the great congestion of men and materials in Belgium.

There were two points in this long line where a break would be fatal to Germany for there were no protecting lines behind, and their most important railway would be cut. These points were Valenciennes and Sedan.

In the last days of October Haig began his attack upon the vital point at Valenciennes. The fighting **GERMAN** was of the bitterest kind for the Germans **DEFEAT** were in their last ditch and they knew it. The advance was slow and the enemy counter attacked most fiercely and frequently. Towns were taken and retaken. But on November 1 the Cana-

dians broke the last German line and captured Valenciennes. Germany's doom was sealed. Maubeuge fell and the British approached Mons where they had fought their first battle in the war in 1914. They had "come back" after four years and broken the last line of the German army and driven it to surrender.

Meantime the Americans had been hammering their way through to Sedan. The American army had shattered forty divisions of the Germans and were keeping one-fourth of all German's remaining troops occupied. In short, our men held the German forces while the British farther west gave them the decisive thrust.

When the Canadians entered Valenciennes the Germans in front of Pershing suddenly collapsed. **AMERICAN VICTORY** Their line had been worn bare of fighting men. The hammering they had received had exhausted their strength and their resources. In the first days of November the American power broke down their last barrier and captured Sedan. At the same time the French moved up to Mezieres. The whole German center cut off from its wings by Haig and Pershing retired so rapidly from France that the Allied cavalry could not keep in touch with the fleeing enemy. The Germans lost the Metz-Maubeuge railroad, and the only means of escape for their armies now lay through Liege. Realizing that it was all over the Germans asked what terms of surrender were required and were directed to apply to Foch, which they lost no time in doing.

The armistice, signed at Senlis, November 11, 1918, provided for a complete surrender of Germany. No nation still able to keep the field would have

yielded to such humiliating terms. A wave of delirious joy swept across the face of nations with the news that the war was over. The armistice at Senlis will stand out as one of the great landmarks of history as it marks the failure of one more effort to dominate the world with the sword.

The great German military machine was at last crushed, while the Kaiser and the kings of the various states of the empire hastened to abdicate. The Allies were determined that as Germany had brought on the terrible war she should now be held to pay the damages in so far as this was possible. Lloyd George stated that the war had cost the Allies one hundred and twenty billions of dollars, and that all the wealth in Germany would not pay this debt. The inhuman cruelty of German warfare, the indescribable suffering the world over, and the appalling loss of life can never be paid for in money. But mankind will charge it all to the disgrace and shame of the German nation and their criminal leaders. Truth, righteousness and humanity were trampled to earth by brutish power, but they have risen again more glorious than before, redeemed by the devotion and sacrifice of brave millions.

A COMPANION BOOK

"Side Lights on the War"

By WILLIAM L. NIDA

For Classes in English and History in
Upper Grades and High School



CONTENTS

PART I

	Page
1. The Making of an Aviator	5
2. Over the Firing Lines	11
3. Chasing a German Flyer	15
4. Our First Air Victory	17
5. Defeating the Submarine	21
6. The Story of Two U-Boats	26
7. A British Captive on a German "Sub"	29
8. Naval Defeat in the Dardanelles	32
9. Camouflage on Land and Sea	36
10. Fighting With Poison Gas	42
11. How Chemistry Aids the Fighters	49
12. American Troops in London	54
13. The Work of the Red Cross	63
14. The Ambulance Driver	69

PART II

GEOGRAPHY OF THE WAR

15. The Story of Alsace-Lorraine	77
16. The British Empire and the Mediterranean	88
17. The Scheme of the Bagdad Railway	97
18. Germany's Advantages in the War	107
19. World Coal Supply and the War	116
20. Germany's Copper Famine	126
21. Platinum in War Times	135
22. Nitrogen for Fertilizers and Munitions	139
23. America's Potash Famine	143
24. Sulphur in War Times	153

PUBLISHED BY

HALE BOOK CO., OAK PARK, ILL.

A COMPANION BOOK

The League of Nations and the Peace Treaties

By WILLIAM L. NIDA

For Junior and Senior High Schools

PARTIAL CONTENTS

PART I

Facing the Facts in Peace Conference.
How Germany Receives the Treaty.
Germany Signs Under Force.
Wilson and the Treaty in America.

PART II

The League of Nations.
Attempts and Failures of a World League.
The Family of Nations.
Will the Covenant Hold?
The Covenant and the Constitution, etc., etc.

PART III

A New Map of Europe.

Paper 45c, Cloth 75c

Usual Discount

**PUBLISHED BY
HALE BOOK CO., OAK PARK, ILL.**

To avoid fine, this book should be returned on
or before the date last stamped below

SON-9-40

TX
940.0
N66

LIBRARY, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, STANFORD

579849

